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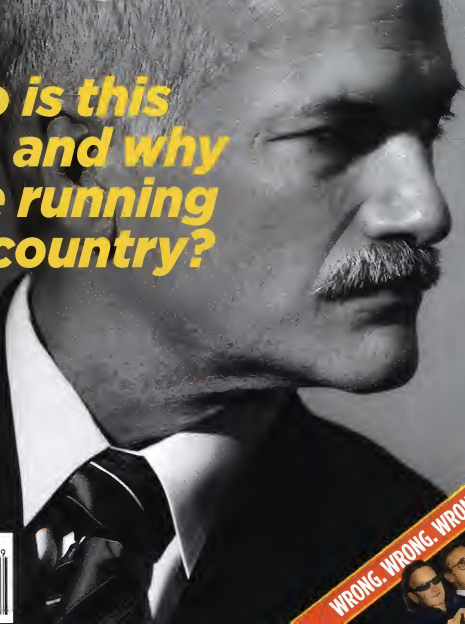
# MACLEAN'S

DEC  
5-12  
2005

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man and why  
is he running  
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**'Also worrisome is that many of these imports may be dog or cat fur. Fur in Canada doesn't even require an identifying label. Are you wearing dog fur? How can you tell?'**

women, not the reverse. Business demands loyalty from its workers, but what do its own agents give its agents? Jobs shipped overseas. Hours cut, full-time employees turned into temps, part-time, permanent part-time. Cuts in benefits. Cuts in wages and more demands for more cuts. Then, with governments acting as accomplices, if not leading the way with legislation designed to weaken workers' rights, government contracts are ripped up, government jobs are sold to private companies, and big business, emboldened by this, ships work to steal the jobs of working women with the assistance of the bosses not playing these employees. Working men and women are under siege on never before and, sadly, not only by their bosses but by fellow workers who, instead of union workers who have fought for and earned the right to job security, high wages, and good health benefits, call them greedy for such as these, it's all ways easier to pull someone down than to fight to pull yourself up. I think women earn productivity, all he needs to do is recognize that loyalty works both ways.

Frank A. Polachuk, Richmond, B.C.

Steve Smith is sure that when Neil French is able when he argues that the lack of gender equality in the workplace is because women have chosen to balance their commitment to the workplace with family responsibilities ("Why women aren't CEOs," *AI Business*, Oct. 31). But I have to ask why women who are fully committed to the workplace and who are not trying to balance work and home are not represented in the top jobs in this country. There is much more to this argument than French's assertion that women don't make it because they don't deserve to. It's a complicated topic. Significant barriers are the rules to justify them simply underlining the great challenges that working women in this country face.

Arena Ramirez, Queens, B.C.

#### Thinking milk?

Barbara Bigelow apparently didn't connect any animal groups or the would have learned that Canada's wild fur industry has declined by 80 per cent or more ("Fur the love of being seen," *Business*, Nov. 21). In 1980, Canadian trappers sold over five million pelts. Last year, that number is less than one million. Trappers everywhere have hung up their traps because of poor pelt prices. Now about 60 per cent of the coming Canada supply China (3



TONY BLAIR: A bloody nose means he has been in power too long and lost touch, a reader says

in primarily poor quality skins, such as rabbit. Also worrisome is that much of these fur exports may well be cat and dog fur, as Canada does not restrict such imports. Fur in Canada doesn't even require an identifying label. Are you wearing cat or dog fur? How can you tell?

George F. Clements,  
Sawyer, Fox & Sawyer, Vancouver

The modern fur trade is an excellent example of the sustainable use of wildlife, a principle promoted by the World Wildlife Fund and other conservation organizations to promote a socioeconomic incentive for protecting vital natural habitat. Trapping is regulated by provincial wildlife departments to ensure that we use only part of the surplus produced by nature each year. Endangered species are never used. Buying fur also supports Aboriginal and other Canadians living close to the land, people who defend the chain-of-custody policies, exclusive logging or other threats to wildlife. Synthesizers (owned by animal activists, by contrast, usually) come from pernicious, non-renewable resources that can damage nature. So if you want to help nature, think milk, or beaver, or muskrat. Environmental responsibility has never looked this good.

Alan Hertzog, Executive Vice President,  
Fur Council of Canada, Montreal

#### Tony Blair's despotism

I read with interest Michael Perre's commentary on the current move of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, seeing him as first defeat

in the continent ("Blair on the brink," *World*, Nov. 21). According to Perre, Blair has grossly misjudged the attitude of the British electorate toward terrorism. He neglects to mention, however, that the proposal to allow police to detain a suspect for up to 90 days did not come from Tony Blair, nor did he ever claim that it was the wish of the public. It was a proposal made by Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Ian Blair, which was endorsed by police departments around the country. Perre also neglected to mention the internationalist aspects of this piece of proposed legislation. The police would not have the power to simply throw people into a jail cell for 90 days. They would need to produce a warrant on a weekly basis to provide evidence that their detention without bringing a case is necessary. Perhaps said details detract from the poor analysis of Tony Blair's apparent despotism.

Anthony Moss, Scarborough, Ont.

Tony Blair has been in power so long that he has lost touch with his party. Rather than learn from his mistakes, majority in spite of a weak opposition, he carried on in the same way as before and now he has a bloody nose. He is a living example of the old adage: power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Corruption in his case was the feeling of omnipotence which will be his downfall unless that fact has brought him back to earth. Stephen Jones, Calgary



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## Playing the Quebec card

**'Don't vote for the Bloc—it will only encourage the PQ.' That Liberal message has worked before, and it may win them some seats this time around.**



PAUL WELLS

defiant the Clarity Act.

Lapierre has been no great booster of the Clarity Act, which concerns Parliament's response to any future referendum on Quebec secession. "Useless," he called it when Paul Martin turned the Bloc Québécois co-founder back to the Liberal party last year. Lapierre's contribution was the commission of Martin's super-clever 1994 campaign strategy. The Martin board's conception, a perfect reflection of their towering self-pick, was that if policy old Jean Charest could win 96 of Quebec's 75 federal seats, they would send in the guns to collect the rest.

At the time, a TV interviewer asked Lapierre whether Stéphane Dion, the Clarity Act's author, was an asset for the Liberals in Quebec. Lapierre snarled: "If it fits"—he used to be.

Funny the way things work out. The Grits lost Quebecers. Blaise Adams, a hard-core far-right-changing federalist rhetoric helped the Liberals post better Quebec results in the end. But that seemed likely in their darkest days. Which explains Paul Martin's last breath: *yes, yes, maybe, counter-claiming—don't vote yourself in the flag for the Quebec component of the 2005 campaign.*

Just over a week ago, fresh from a trip to Am, the Prime Minister gave out a news release giving the go-ahead to André Boisclair, the shay race Parti Québécois leader. Boisclair has said he will ignore the Clarity Act and pursue a uni-

The next day a pack of senators over Lapierre at a screen interview. "Well, my concern is that Mr. Boisclair is really jumping the gun right now," he said. Quebec's Liberal premier, Jean Charest, is going to be re-elected, so "Mr. Boisclair is being pretty presumptuous." And what about when Lapierre called the Clarity Act useless? "Well, he said, all the reason was that it would never be used because the secession wouldn't win the next election."

Lapierre's biggest problem was that, even as he spoke, two Bloc Québécois staffers were handling responses to requests of his comments.



from 2004. So the lady from the CBC was able to refresh his memory. "At the time, you said, 'if there was a will in Quebec, a clear will to secede, they would not be able to stop a will like that by trying to have tricks.'"

Whooops. "I have always maintained that since day one," Lapierre replied gamely. "A clear will means a clear question and a clear answer."

**Boisclair promises a referendum, and a revolutionary act of secession. For the Liberals, the strategy couldn't be clearer.**

lateral declaration of independence if he were any more of a secessionist. Calling the Clarity Act useless, you might say. "Mr. Boisclair's declaration amounts to a rejection of the role of law in favour of political expediency," Martin's statement said. "The project of Quebec secession is one that I will fight with every ounce of my being as Prime Minister, as a proud Quebecer and proud Canadian."

So how was Lapierre any different from Boisclair? "Mr. Boisclair said he is going to ignore the law of the land. And I don't believe we should ignore the law of the land under any circumstances."

Well, that was different examining. Here's what happened. Lapierre became collateral damage when his boss decided to fight the 2005 election in Quebec the way Jean Charest

taught 1997 and 2004. While we're on the topic of Boisclair, I might as well repeat that his unilateral declaration of independence would produce only chaos unless he could make the federal government stop recognizing its legal authority in Quebec. That can't happen without Ottawa's consent. And the unilateral would have to be supported. The Clarity Act says the conditions for that negotiation are clear majority on a clear question. And the Supreme Court said the same thing before that. It doesn't matter whether André Boisclair ignores these constraints. Parliament cannot.

But of course this isn't just about Paul Martin's own (probably belatedly) discovery of these principles. This is strategy, and it could hardly be simpler. The Liberal message in this election will be that Bloc Québécois success would give heart to Boisclair as he prepares for a 2007 provincial election. Boisclair promises a referendum of the sort,

with a constitutional act of secession on its heels. So Quebecers who believe in Canada can't afford to stay home in this election, or vote Bloc.

That was the theme of the workweek stump speech Martin can drive in a Montreal and race in. Wednesday. He learned Gilles Duceppe on the role of law, heard some economic stats, and asked: "Are we going to throw all of that away—that tremendous opportunity—and plunge ourselves into another referendum?"

Martin's speech wasn't on, but it didn't have to be. It sets the stage for the kind of polarized campaign that has worked to the Liberal's advantage since the Bloc was formed. A Canada-wide debate for the Grits may yet reaping the benefits of that strategy. The Liberals' national game means shaky support. But on current form I expect them to pick up seats in Quebec. Is Jean Lapierre an asset in this campaign? *N/A* **M**

READ PAUL WELLS'S BLOG, "Toldus Wells," at [www.tolduswells.ca/paulwells](http://www.tolduswells.ca/paulwells)

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PETER MANNING

peating the best way to handle the Alberta premier's verbal bombs could be summed up with two words: "Start here." What was it Klein had said? Only that he felt Paul Martin was going to win another minority because Stephen Harper is seen as "too much on the right" by vote-rich Ontario. That Klein's blurt with his assessments is nothing new, and to some quite refreshing—remember, this is the man who suggested, with a smile, that dissension first caused global warming. But when it comes to unnecessarily supporting his party's national leader, Klein is hardly the first premier to be judged as letting the side down. Alberta's Peter Lougheed was often seen as a liability on Joe Clark, as was Ontario's Bill Davis; there was no love lost between Quebec's Robert Bourassa and Pierre Trudeau; Manitoba's Gary Filmon caused no end of headaches for Jean Chrétien; and Ontario's Dalton McGuinty seems to always be pouncing on Paul Martin's handling of Ontario concerns. For most of them, hanging on Ottawa, even when it's all in the family, is seen as smart politics.

Does this stuff translate into more than just a good story? Probably not when it happens between elections, but on the eve of a campaign, maybe. Provincial and federal campaigns share workers, and if there's a signal to back off helping, that can obviously cause problems. That's the case for Harper in Alberta, where the Tories rule no matter who says what about whom within the Conservative circle. But remarks such as Klein's could have an impact in Ontario, where they only serve as a reminder of what many voters in fact did think last year, and could defuse voters' fears about head-on door-to-door work. Harper could only be thankful that Klein spoke out the week before the campaign started, not the week before the votes are counted. There's lots to cringe over that could make that little shopper bag forgotten by time.

All the parties claim that as the campaign begins they're a flash cash position to fund their various activities, including one of the most expensive—the television ad buy. This year they'll already need the cash, and less so if, because the pre-Christmas season is prime commercial time and donations come cheap. But starting spats of the leaders slagging each other, or showing their own lack of,

proven trust and accountability, at the same time as a barrage of slickly produced ads feature the best of the holiday season, maybe unexpected and a bit some of the parties just won't be willing to take. Some campaign veterans are privately wondering whether it might be better to stay out of the way and let Christmas be Christmas without trying to hammer a campaign axe through it.

If that's the case, then expect the December part of this campaign to be a phony war—the only people watching it may be on the politicians' planes, in the rally halls, and in newsrooms across the country. Most voters may take a pass until the first week of January, and even then it will be interesting to see just how many will be motivated enough to really get involved. Turnout will again be much discussed and much fretted about—last year, even with the parties and the media determined to reverse a steady pattern of declining rates by trying new campaigns and coverage techniques, the rate dropped to an all-time low of 65 per cent. This year, however,

### All too often, provincial premiers are the real problem for their own federal party leaders

tional wisdom suggests that two things—a disdain for whatmost Canadians have witnessed (provincial politicians) in the past year, and the possible perils of a mid-winter campaign—could take that number even lower, in other words, down into the fifties.

Now for a trivia question, and don't feel bad if you don't know because it's a bit but many people who work on Parliament Hill won't know the answer either. Here's the trivia question: The current "Guest" of the House of Commons—the member of Parliament who has held his seat longer than anyone else and as a result garners a certain degree of extra peer respect—is Manitoba's Bill Blaikie, of the NDP. He has written on all sides of the House, and, it should be noted, very few expect him to face a serious threat as he tries to record his ninth consecutive victory. But what if the unexpected happens and he is knocked off? Who would then be the dean? The answer: Louis Plamondon, who is expected by those who know Quebec politics to be victorious in his seventh straight race. Plamondon was first elected as a Conservative in the Mulroney sweep of 1984, but has been representing the Bloc Québécois since 1996. And if Blaikie were to be triggered up, that could make the dean of the House someone who, in fact, is trying to break it, and the country, up.

Only in Canada, you say. **M**

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7 DAYS

## THE WEEK AHEAD: A TRIAL, AN OUTCOME AND AN EXECUTION

The trial of former strongman Saddam Hussein resumes despite a threat by defense lawyers to boycott proceedings following assassinations of two colleagues. Meanwhile, creditors will vote whether to accept a restructuring plan for Sirius, which has been in bankruptcy protection for 13 months. The U.S. is scheduled to execute convicted murderer Robin Levin, bringing the number of executions to 1,000 near the lifting of the capital punishment moratorium in 1995.

### Ar-r-o-y

A bumper currency preference made instant collector's items recently when it printed 100 peso notes for the Philippines with the name of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo spelled incorrectly. A small number of bills were released, officials admitted last week.

### The big for backyard

The owner of the original "Hollywood" sign is selling off memorabilia. Dan Ellis, who bought the sign two years ago, offered it on eBay for more than \$500,000. The sign was taken down in 1978 to make way for a new one.

### POLL WATCH

#### Time over money

Among Canadian entrepreneurs, women are more concerned as flexible work time than men, according to results of a poll last week. Study also got an ear of women said they spend family time, compared to 51 per cent of men. Generally men put greater emphasis on making money than did women.

#### Few hibilities

Only one per cent of Ontario students say they've used Gay-Conn, the controversial pornography-purviewing curriculum introduced "voluntarily" last year. The first-year survey for the day, released by Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), the survey found that use of legal and illegal drugs among students in grades seven to 12 declined significantly between 2001 and 2003.

### IN PASSING

**Beth Sienko**, 74, the American home economist who invented Stove Top stuffing. She was credited with creating the precise size of bread crumbs to give the convenience product its unique "moist feel."

**Charles Keating**, 71, Nova Scotia cable TV entrepreneur and philanthropist and provincial Liberal backroom player. An entrepreneur by the Liberals' near unanimous made instantly to his influence. A sharp turn in his career came directly out of the Liberal Shopping Centres owned by Keating.

**Pat Henke**, 73, a movie actor best known as the car-wreck-prone mentor Muzak Kiyoko in the 1984 hit *The Karate Kid*.

### IN OTHER NEWS

#### Dumpster gourmets

Concerned that Americans waste 27 per cent of that country's food production, a New York City group of optimists are creating the "Foodie" lifestyle. They said gourmet dinner parties using only foods rescued from dumpsters. A recent evening included applicant Parmesan and smoked meatballs. "We finished food that we could eat," says entrepreneur Adam Weinstein.

#### Winged nut

Pelican in Florida, brought down a fleeing wild nut with a direct shot to his genitals. The made 16-year-old was breaking windows and attacking females. He was taken to hospital to have a tumor going removed, and face charges of indecent exposure and resisting arrest.

#### Amazon.com River

An Idaho river voted to adopt a fast-commerce law week. It chose Amazon.com, to support the online practice of a local mail-order business.

#### Lawns and furniture

City council in Thonon, Ont., is studying legislation to stop the use of indoor furniture outdoors. The bylaw would address the growing and unhygienic practice of putting chairs, tables and other

furniture on lawns. The decorative idea much favored by male university students—and the resulting garbage—would result in a \$2,000 fine.

#### Credit's check

After three-and-a-half decades for three years, he was arrested on connection with the murder by fire-bombing of a court guard official in the Kansas bar East. But thanks to the wife of a police investigator, Britton is now in custody the opened homicide in the closing credits of a television program on which Britton had been working as a cameraman.

#### Making an ass of cops

It took four police cars in hours in the small Greek town of Patras to catch a gang of teenage thieves finding with a safe in a street pulled by a donkey. The donkey proved more adept at negotiating the town's narrow, winding alleys and was only thwarted when the thieves turned into a blind alley.

#### Kabob kibosh

The Nov. 16 World Cup soccer playoff in Istanbul was riotous—non-violent players from Switzerland were pelted and even beaten as they left the stadium. Last week the conflict soon fought back with a local boycott of Turkish



foods. The problems 90 per cent of the country's kabob stands are run by Kurds, who do anything but identify as Turks.

#### Chicago meats

An enterprising bandit attempted to rob a bar in Hawthick Park, Ill., last week with a laser sword. He had muddled into the shape of a gun. The robber fell on his way out and was arrested. Meanwhile, in nearby Northbrook, good between Mark Coppy rescued an elderly couple trapped inside a burning car by busting in the windows with an eight-foot metal rod. He'd just bought for U.S. Thanksgiving.

#### Think before you act

When safety precautions failed, Benedict Frank, owner of the Calabasas Club in Swanton, whether his classroom run fire safety standards, Frank confidently demonstrated by setting them alight. The subsequent fire, started not only the club, but the restaurant next door. And in Arizona, a 77-year-old father broke his leg while alone in the wilderness, then all capable to stay alone, then tried to stand up. He fell into the fire and, by only last week, the spreading on him had burned 64 hectares.

**NOTES:** And you know what you can do with your kabobs.

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PHOTO BY MICHAEL WOOD

INTERVIEW



## The night John Kennedy Jr. and his wife, Carolyn Bessette, died in a plane crash, 'when I looked at my husband I said, "It was supposed to be you."' CAROLE RADZIWIŁL TALKS TO LINDA FROM

Carol Radziwiłł met Anthony Radziwiłł in 1990 when they were both producers at ABC News in New York. They married in 1994, in what Carolyn Radziwiłł understandably describes as a fairy tale: she was a self-starter from a rough, working-class background, and he was a handsome Polish prince and American aristocrat. Anthony Radziwiłł's first cousin, John Kennedy Jr., and his wife, Carolyn Bessette, were the couple's closest friends. In the summer of 1998, Radziwiłł, then age 40, remembered, after a few year struggle, to a rare and aggressive cancer. John Kennedy Jr. was to deliver his eulogy. But three weeks before, Kennedy and his wife appeared to have won death in a plane crash. In her new book, *What Remains*, Carole Radziwiłł writes about her summer of astronomical loss.

**Q** Part of the sadness of this story is not only did John and Carolyn die young, they weren't in a very happy place at the time of their deaths. That summer was difficult for all of us. We spent every weekend together and were trying to keep our heads up for Anthony. Anthony was very much still idealistic about dying. So by that time we had all more or less come to the fact that he would not make it through to the end of the summer. It's hard to keep up appearances and make it seem like everything is normal. It's a lot of pressure. It was a lot of pressure on me.

It was a lot of pressure on Carolyn. That summer wasn't the best summer in any of our lives. And John's magazine *George* wasn't doing well.

**A** Right. In fact he had just come to Canada to find some financing.

**Q** Yes. That was about three days before he died. And John and Carolyn were not on the best terms that summer.

**A** They loved each other and they respected each other and there was a tremendous amount of love there. They were a very affectionate couple.

**Q** But that summer they were having disagreements.

**A** It wasn't an easy time for any of us. There were stories about them splitting up—anything that could possibly be said about two people has been said about them. What doctors so much on his is not understanding the difference between fact and truth. The fact was they were having a really hard time. The fact was they were seeing a marriage counselor. But that was because they wanted to be sure that they were okay. They were under a lot of stress.

The truth is, they loved each other. So that's the difference between the fact and the truth. Part of the issue that you and Carolyn shared was that you were both outsiders in the Kennedy world. Did that put a lot of pressure on each of your marriages?

**A** I think everything into my family—there's a transition. And John and Carolyn weren't married long. Because of Anthony's disease, I did learn his family's truths. And in turn,

Anthony had to learn Carolyn's truths about the "Dilemma" and becoming someone as close to the "Viceless" as possible.

**Q** Did you not meet his mother, Lee Radziwiłł, until after two years of dating? Yeah, and I was happy about that. She must be a formidable human being.

**A** I think Anthony and I both realized that if our relationship was going to work, we needed to create our own little world. We were on a very equal playing field at ABC News. He was very entrepreneurial about his business. And I was happy about that because it was a successful enough meeting your boyfriend's mother. And I wanted to make sure that it was a real thing. And obviously he did too.

**Q** Did you ever go to the point where you felt like an outsider in the family?

**A** I did because I was the only person in the family dealing with Anthony's disease.

**Q** Did your mother-in-law have anything to teach you about handling grief?

**A** I think after that summer—most of us who were really close to the three of them were good for each other. I think we were all in a very good place to help each other. I went through a period where I didn't see anyone for a long time.

**Q** As you write this book, how did you manage the fine line between telling your own story while not violating the privacy of the Kennedy family?

I think the notoriety of "Stripped privacy" have been greatly exaggerated.

**This is a very honest book. You write about what it's like to live with someone who has an illness, and how difficult it was for you. You don't whine, and that's amazing. And that's one of the things in our culture**

that tells the real truth about what it is to live with illness.

**Honesty. Was that part of your motivation for writing this book?**

**A** I thought that if I was going to write a book that I was going to have to be honest. People recognize honesty. They crave it.

**For example, you write that after John and Carolyn died, you no longer had the strength to take care of Anthony.**

As far as I was concerned, the night of the accident it was like they all died and I was mourning all three of them.

**John was working on Anthony's rugby and in the end it was Anthony who attended John's funeral.**

It was cruel and unusual and ironic that Anthony had to see that. The night of the accident when I looked at my husband, I said, "It was supposed to be you."

**Did you say that out loud?**

No. To myself. But I think he knew I was thinking it.

**Your reaction to John and Carolyn's death was anger. And it was anger directed at Anthony.**

Just you couldn't believe. I thought fate would look kindly on all of us because we had dealt with a lot over the previous year. And it was heart-breaking and sad. And I thought, okay, we're going to go on. Nothing bad is going to happen to us because we weren't always perfect but we did our best and we took care of Anthony. I thought there would be a time, months or years later, when we would all look back and talk about the good times we had. We would talk about Anthony. And that was robbed from me.

**Isn't that ultimately the message of your book? There are no pawns?**

No one gets one. And the minute you start thinking you do, you can get into trouble.

**One of the most powerful scenes in the book is your description of a time in the ICU when John thought Anthony was dying. He took his hand and said, "If you go down to the woods today, I'm a thousand miles away. You know and you're going to know when they say they love you. It gave some truth to what death looks like."**

Right. In the end we all struggle. It's about trying to find what works. Whether it's with a childhood illness or having your friends around, or not having your friends around. Unfortun-

ately there's no memo on how to proceed. Of all the clinicians in your book, Carolyn is the one you learn to love unconditionally. You are most passionate when you write about her. It's interesting that you picked that up because the intimacy that last year shared from me and my husband, to reuniting my best friend. I mean certainly, when you are writing about your marriage and your husband—it's a really more complicated relationship. With Carolyn, she was such a great friend. It was unconditional. There was nothing I couldn't tell her. But there was a list, on the other hand, that I couldn't tell my husband. Because he was sick. Or because his body was more difficult than friends.

**Are you married?** Husbands can be a big pain in the ass. Let's be honest. They're annoying. No, seriously, it was because he was so ill and he was in denial about what was going on. And I went along with that denial at the first three or four years. But that last year was so difficult for me. I made it someone to talk to. I needed someone to go. And Carolyn just stepped right in and really opened me. When you first start her, you look at her, "Right stories tell me about" as you describe her, and you thought to yourself, "This is not a friend for me."

Yes. But apart from that first impression, you fell in love with her.

Oh yeah. Everyone fell in love with her. There was nobody marriage, or more compassionate, or touchy-feely. When we first met she started with all the touching and hugging. And I was the one who took some time to get used to it. She was unbelievably open and warm. And she had so much love for her friends.

**As a public personality she did not evade the warmth and openness that you describe in your book.**

**Q** Isn't that therapy? I've never seen a situation where someone's public persona is so completely contrary to who they really are.

She gave you a lot of fashion advice. And obviously you found that endearing.

It was endearing. After we met, she left us a note that said, "You have to get rid of those GAP shirts." One friendship cannot persist in a growth and change and you realize how important this book is to me. Now, this was a hilarious letter if you knew her because she didn't really care about them. It was her sense of humor. I only knew her as a private person. When I see the pictures of her and she's very fabulous, very beautiful and graceful, I don't recognize her in these pho-

tos. But I didn't write this book to correct the record, or change the record, or change any one's perception of who she was. I just wrote honestly and I wrote about that friendship.

**You worked as a producer with Peter Jennings for many years.**

He was a mentor and a role model and someone I admired enormously.

**How did you meet him?** I was writing a note to his wife, who is a friend of mine, and was also a colleague at ABC News. I said to her, I feel that I should impart some good wisdom to you having gone through this myself. But in the end I don't have any. There's nothing I can tell you. Death is such a personal thing. It's universal but it's also personal. I wouldn't presume to



**"There was nothing I couldn't tell Carolyn. But there was a lot that I couldn't tell my husband."**

**understand other people's grief. What I do know is that it is the loudest emotion anyone will ever have to go through. It is lonely even if you have one hundred friends around.**

**There is no such thing as wonderful good fortune.**

The thought about this is, whenever you sit at a table, wherever, and someone is in your line. For me it might have come a little earlier. But in the end, my story is everyone's story. Your friendship. Your husband and wife dies. That's just life. You can never predict where it's going to go. You do the best you can with what you are given. And I think Anthony and I, Carolyn and John, we did that. ■



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Another Liberal minority in Election 2006 could turn Layton's spring budget deal into a template for a sustained NDP power play

# MY NAME IS JACK

STORY BY JOHN EIDDER, PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER BRZOZO

With the minority Liberal government all but set to fall this week, politicians—not to mention voters—are gazing at the prospect of a campaign that runs through the holiday season. Who is their right hand would want to fail at politics and policy when they could be enjoying the Christmas break? Well, actually, Jack Layton has done it before, and apparently it's a cherished memory. The NDP leader's wife, Toronto city councillor Olivia Chow, gets positively sentimental when reflecting how they spent their first Christmas Eve as a couple, back in 1981, drafting a policy paper. It is winter school-bell hours at the time, but in a city council cell, and they were collaborating on a nation program for schools. "It was about sharing," Chow explains, and sounds like she's only half joking when she adds: "it's the best way to do Christmas."

Tagging and shorthanded cooked service, too, that Layton and Chow not only are husband and pleasure, they seem to barely tolerate edge the difference. And how they keep their professional and personal lives from getting tangled says that, Chow says, "Why would we want to do that?" Being free politics defines even Layton's home life: makes the way he drives himself through the rest of the time less surprising. Not since Justin Trudeau ruled Ottawa as a federal party leader appeared to be continuously in Lila Mulcair's Lapton keeps in close touch with an astonishingly wide range of political contacts. And Mulcair's had only the phone—Layton also wields his BlackBerry incessantly.

His housework, though, that he's more than a carefree networker. Layton, 35, married

as a skilled brokerage politician last April, and hasn't let up since. When the Conservatives and the Blue Québécois were advancing over the chance to bring down Paul Martin's majority in the wake of spying revelations from Justice John Gosselin's sponsorship inquiry, Layton cut a risky deal that swept the Liberals, and made his NDP a force in Ottawa in a way the party hadn't been in decades. He traded support in the House for

**The Liberals know they can't keep feeding their emboldened rival on the left flank**

\$6.6 billion in spending on NDP priorities, from affordable housing to mass transit.

Not bad for a guy who commands only the fourth party in the House, where 16 MPs out of 308. In the campaign set to begin this week, the question is whether he can persuade Canadians to give his NDP enough votes for him to gain a tenuous grip on the balance of power in what is likely to be another minority House. If the election pans out in that polar position, then last spring's one-off budget deal with the Liberals could turn into the blueprint for a sustained NDP power play. The danger, for Layton, is a repeat of what happened to the NDP after it propped up Liberal minorities in the '60s and early '70s—a Liberal resurgence at the NDP's expense, partly fuelled by the popularity of the very policies

New Democrats pushed onto the agenda. That outcome would quickly turn Jack Layton from the well-loved NDP renegade into a Commons bonds the streets for Audrey McLaughlin and Alexa McDonough.

The Liberals are preoccupied with the Tories, but also seem aware that they can't afford to keep feeding the emboldened rival on their left flank. When Stephen Harper and Gilles Duceppe were ready to gang up to defeat Martin's government after Gosselin's November report, Layton tried once more to pre-empt the vices of this little group of MPs into mass

politics coming in the NDP shop window. That time, when he asked for significant steps to early private health services, Martin's counter offer was to argue that it would have given the NDP little to brag about. The Liberals were clearly loath to hand Layton more campaign ammunition. So he walked away from the table. At one NDP insider explained, letting the Liberals survive well into 2006—long enough to deliver a budget that would eclipse the "NDP budget" from last spring—was only worth it if Layton could plausibly claim to have exposed his will on the key

health care file. If he couldn't keep running the country, in other words, we'd just have to have another election.

How the two sides will play out surprised Layton is playing the angles to leverage their survival into substantial deals. He's been recognized as a neutral politician since his high school days. He went on to be a campus activist, then a teach politics in universities, and practice law for two decades in Toronto. His mastery of municipal government may be the key to understanding his approach to Ottawa

city politics, without the strict party discipline that shapes most of what happens on Parliament Hill and in provincial legislatures, tends to be about shifting alliances, rather than inflexible partisanship. It's an arena that favours deal makers. And Layton—who has sometimes been accused of showing more interest in making a splash than a difference—is out to persuade voters that if they give him more MPs in that election, his NDP can keep on cutting deals that matter.

Layton honed his skills over 20 years at Toronto city hall, but his roots are in small



WHO IS THIS MAN AND WHY HAS HE BEEN RUNNING THE COUNTRY?

town/Quebec. Born in 1960 and raised in Hudson, married and youth served two years in an institution, followed by an activist coming-out episode when Layman, his best friend, a lot of colleagues



**A MARRIAGE?** Or will he be a footnote beside McLachlan's and McDermott's names?

and sailing on Lake of Two Moons in Jack was an student council, Bert added the yearbook "We created our own activities," says Margie. "We did some theater, organized dances. We were on the debating team."

It took wasn't tagged as a leader. "I was an all around guy, a pretty fair all-around guy," says a student sports like swimming," says Larry Smith, the president of the National Alliance, which has been used as a possible. "My leader ship candidate and was president of Hudson High School's student council in 1967-68, the year after Layton was. Smith says Layton was, unlike a typical Jack, "didn't mind being seen as hanging around with guys with intellectual disabilities."

After graduating from high school in 1967, Layton and Musilgaf travelled to Alberta for a national youth parliament. They turned that Centennial excursion into a classic Pan-Canadian road trip. Carling in their rooming plane tickets, the two goofballs from Inukjuak hitchhiked to Vancouver and slept in Stanley Park. They then thumbed their way back home across the country. "We were very earnest," Musilgaf says. "I remember we were out on the Prairies—I think in Manitoba and

St. Boniface—and we looked for a cheap place to sleep and ended up in shack behind a service station that the guy rented to us. We stayed up all night discussing all kinds of philosophical things, a lot of existential things—at least as far as we could at 13°

They both went on to McGill. Layman is a political science student and Merigold is studying math and physics. The computer is running with leftist radicalism. "Jack took part in the political strike for department 400. We occupied the vice chancellor's office at one point. He was in there in a lot of that stuff," says Merigold. "He always had a cozy way with people and he's a natural leader in any way." Jewish members that everyone always assumed Layman was destined for politics. But he also saw behind Layman's easygoing confidence a certain volatility. "Jack had a conservatism about him, but a rebellious one also," he says. "You were always wondering when the wild shot is going to come from him. That's what changed from his youth."

He's still capable of the occasional well-timed shot, but how spontaneous they are is a point of debate. Not even his closest friends, who see Leyron as a confident politician, say they're surprised by his tactical savvy. So when his party could do without a tough, critical member, support him by purging its enemies for efficiency. In layman's language, he's said death of a few less people early after Paul Maron can afford little boasting when he was a difficult financial-financial manager. The charge put Leyron on the defensive for several days. During which he seemed at times wildly disoriented over the war. "None because is one of the great mistakes," he has written a book on the problem. But was Leyron's attack and his reaction to the fallow: rarely genuine or purely strategic? It's hard to be sure about a politician whose private and public dimensions are, by known will's description, barely separated.

He's still capable of the occasional wild shot, but how spontaneous they are is a point of debate. Layton plays the media with tactical savvy.

There can be no doubt that Layman regards seeming risks as trifles in a major part of his job description. Most politicians, and their followers, are coy about that aspect of the public life. Harper pauses up an opportunity to tell anyone who'll listen that he's not much of a performer, asking about his own supposed dullness—often just before he rips into a well-honed stump speech peppered with one-liners. His core supporters are eager to describe him as a policy wonk at heart, rather than a politician. Says a senior Harper aide, "He's not a politician. Square-MacKen's influence is

**Layton and Chow  
spent their first  
Christmas Eve  
together drafting  
a policy paper**

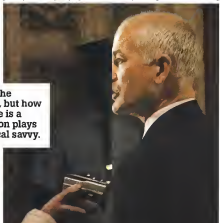
Prime Minister's productivity for last night policy debates—but merely mentioning that I was furiously extended meetings over which as much

about race, politics and real policy.

Layton's friends and allies, however, find it hard to open to him anything but his pure political ability as they are those addressing him. Marilyn Churley, deputy leader of Ontario's NDP and a Toronto candidate for the federal party in the coming campaign, credits Layton with inspiring her as she made the transition from community activist to professional politician. He asked her bluntly as a leader on how to bring urban poverty to environmental policy. But what about the most important things she learned from him, the name to publicity tactics. "They took it to the bank about green media," she says from Jack Layton's office. "People talk about Jack being so craft, but I remember his generosity about showing the spotlight was

me and teaching me the ropes. He taught me how to focus, how to grab media attention on an issue, so you don't bury an issue in too much detail. How to get the message out as succinctly as possible. When to be loud, when to be mild, when to use props, when not to use props. What's the best time to hold press conferences?"

Lytton knows his reputation for racism runs as strong as generic headlines and TV news clips have him in danger of being seen as a disjunct. He once lay down on the "line" to guarantee to have his outline drawn in chalk, to draw attention to AIDS deaths. He managed to have 1,000 balloons drop from the ceiling of the National Assembly to celebrate the centennial of Confederation. He was the first of Canadian Manitoulin Islanders to attempt signing up 1,000 tribes and nations when he was heading up its membership drive. Early on as federal NDP leader, he set up a website, [www.fieringray.on.ca](http://www.fieringray.on.ca), devoted to publicizing how Paul Martin's shipping company registered vessels in foreign countries to avoid Canadian customs, and offering citizens a chance to vote for which ship to sink. He was the first to suggest that the federal government should include a clause in the 1995 Quebec referendum to allow Quebec to secede from Canada without the approval of the rest of the country.



says to start things done, was ideal just driving up novel songs of processing the song things done. "The change happened in 1978," he told Markel's in an interview last week. "I took for the day. It was a complete penny-drop change. It was literally in the phone, and then, I don't know, I was in the phone, and I was being in proportion. That's what was going on: people instead of just listening to the status quo. Before this was a new thing. Layton had spent three weeks as part of a left-wing lecture on Toronto city council that was a lot of noise but didn't accomplish anything. He was in the city, and he was the chairman of the city's board of health, and then, Layton argued, he hit his stride. "Those people don't lead at the media level," he says, "but there was a lot of work that got done." Layton boasts of smooching a land mark AIDS strategy, and a pioneering work place smoking ban. "It was valid for that," he says, "but it was not at every place—you

At about the same time, the real tycoon, Layton and Chow merged as Toronto's premier left-wing power couple. They were married in 1955. Layton had previously been married to a Hindu girl, Sally Hildford, and they had two children, Susan and Mike. Chow describes himself as close to Layton's ex-wife. It's been a thoroughly modern family unit. A close custody arrangement for the child drew led to a real end of Layton and Chow sleeping over at the home of Sally, who also remained, most Christmas Eves, to the kids could spend their previous Christmas morning with both families. Now adults, Mike and Sarah call Chow "Dad," and only in recent months finally moved out of his Victorian house near Toronto's Chinatown that the late Layton shared with Chow's mother.

**L**ayton's downtown Toronto home base is often mentioned as a liability as he tries to build NDP support across Canada. A Toron-

strategist, surveying the NDP prospects in Saskatchewan—where Layton was shot one last year but is targeting at least three seats this time—says the NDP leader is viewed in the province as “late-appearing socialism.” Flaming that characterization, Layton fires back: “You actually can get good lanes in Saskatoon, and Regina, too. Even Moose Jaw, where they have two of the finest trout you’d want to cook.” (Chow denigrates “the urban fish-culture black.”) In fact, Layton doesn’t seem to mind being derided as a big-city politician. “Canada is the most urbanized of the developed countries,”

As for his relations with big labour, Layton is close to some union leaders—but by no means all.

in the world," he says. "We don't think of ourselves that way, but we are a highly urbanized country and our cities and towns need support. That's the backbone of our economy."

When it comes to winning seats, though, Layton backs his support in search well beyond other factors. His most loyal constituents, including voters motivated by issues like global warming and urban poverty, is 100 percent. As for the traditional "R" backing from the left, Layton is close to some union leaders—but by no means all. Even Mike Harris of the Canadian Auto Workers and Ken Gault of the Canadian Labour Congress have publicly criticized his manufacturing an election timing, throwing their support behind Martin's plan to be allowed to govern until the early spring. In an interview, Gault said he has a "support" with the Prime Minister, and finds him engaging, so they talk regularly. And Layton? "I met with him at airports," Gault said.

Thanked for an assurance, Gregori described Layton as "smart and personable." Not exactly a chorus of Solidarity. Former Gov-

massive NDP campaign band may be over sooner than once-wild money-political-party financing reforms introduced by Jean Chrétien in his last weeks as prime minister outlawed most donations (along with banning large single-time contributions). But there is also a natural divide between Layton's downtown base and the traditional industrial union leadership. "Jack's best at picking up urban voters in urban areas," says Greg Lewand, a professor of politics and public administration at Ryerson University. "He doesn't connect as well with older kind of guy."

The nervous, in fact, hilariously indecisive, is not only the editor, it's Tory. Layton's father ran a Montreal engineering firm, and later as a Conservative MP, during the Progressive Conservative caucus and finally serving as a senior minister in Mulroney's cabinet. He died three years ago, after passing on po-

litical crisis in the polling booth to Liberal from NDP, out of fear of a Conservative victory. That same danger looms again—if left-of-centre voters see a Harper victory as a serious possibility. "The third iteration for Jack Layton would be for a Liberal minority to be a reality," Nason says. And that means Martin will probably close out the campaign appealing again to soft NDP supporters, warning that a win for the Liberals is not in the bag. Nason says the NDP campaign team must devise a strategy for countering that expected Liberal bid for left-leaning voters in the final weekend of the race.

on which he will compete with Marra for the status of governor of Canada. He gives up to push for some version of proportional representation, a radical change in the way Canadians elect MPs that would guarantee small parties and bigger contingents to Parliament. And he needs a strategy to "build the green cars that Canada wants right here in Canada," a phrase that blends old-style NDP industrial policy with his own concerns about global warming.

But before he mentions what he hopes to do after the election, Layton is still by no means what he sees as his strongest selling point.



FOR EXTREMES' SIDE: Layton's fiery father taught him many important political lessons

## The danger, for Layton, is a repeat of what happened in the '60s and '70s—propping up a Liberal minority only to get pushed off the stage

litical lessons on the social-democratic front. "I was very proud of the work that I did, and he expressed that very publicly, and to Brian Mulroney," Layton says. "I have to credit my dad, who showed a very large canvas for eight years. He and I talked a great deal and he taught me how to move the canvas worked as a team." Any advice was surely needed. When Layton won the NDP leadership in early 2003, he inherited his own rich, veteran Manitoba MP Bill Blaney—the over-the-hilling, fiscally of the NDP caucus—in the first ballot. And against a lawless, easily heard and cordoned precinct, Layton's sleek hair and meticulously trimmed mustache can seem a lot harder to wear up to.

He needed to prove that the gamble on a third attempt to the federal scene was worth it. Expectations going into last year's election were high: the party had sunk close to irrelevance through the 1990s, and Layton was expected to restore it to a respectable. The result was worse: when he took the party had hoped. They booted their next test to 19 from 16, and nearly doubled the NDP share of the popular vote to 10 per cent from nine per cent in the 2000 election. But a sharp slide, particularly in Ontario, in the 2004 election before the vote ended before the party's strategy and it was within this group through most of the campaign.

Nick Nason, president of the pollster, from 1993 to 2004, says a lot of voters switched at the

Conservatives are watching Layton, too. They are hoping he will, like their, campaign harder against Liberals. But in a telling speech to New Democrats in October, Layton clearly signalled that he has also targeted specific Tory seats. "People in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario and beyond," he said, "know Stephen Harper's wrong on the issues, wrong for working families and that they can do better." B.C., Saskatchewan and Ontario? It's not the standard coast-to-coast political speech; they mean where Layton's closest to ridings—Ottawa in Ontario, three seats in Saskatchewan and Regina, and a handful in B.C.—do the "bones" but by slim margins when votes the NDP thought were in the bag slipped to the Liberals. In all, the party lost a dozen ridings by fewer than 1,000 votes last year, and those seats are now Layton's prime targets.

His message to voters is that casting a ballot for the NDP is both a demand on the past as a present vote, has turned into a pragmatic choice. He told supporters on a recent radio show that competition there is a speech by the House last Thursday on this no confidence motion that will be heard on this Monday. Layton vowed to support public health care from "caring, compassionate," an issue

that he "got results" in the spring budget deal. He ready to learn about that "NDP budget" in every speech he delivers, every NDP ad, at every chance he gets in the selected leader's debate.

It's a highly unusual position for an opposition leader entering a campaign. Layton is running on his record. Yet it might be his lack of coarsening media attention—not the concrete budget measures he now has under his belt—but his outspokenness about the shiping up as a party, negative ad-fueled struggle between the Liberals and Conservatives, the NDP's biggest worry is getting snatched off the main stage. Already in last week's clash between Marra and Harper over the Tory leader's charge that the sponsorship after leaked Liberal to organized crime, Layton was on the sidelines. He'll need all his wits to claim a share of the spotlight over the next few weeks. While delivering substance made the NDP minister again, a lot of showmanship might be called for to keep the party in the game. And Layton has shown that. One thing: NDP campaign strategy needs not worry about it that he'll demand more downtime in this once-continuous campaign. He's pulled the Christmas Eve shift before.

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GAUGING THE PM'S MOOD ON WHAT COULD BE HIS LAST WEEK IN OFFICE

# Paul Martin pulls up his socks. He should stop doing that in public.

BY SHARON DRILLER IT'S 10 o'clock, 45 minutes into Question Period in the House of Commons, and Paul Martin leans over to Deputy PM Anne McLellan to say, "I'm going to go." But before he does, they play a couple games of tic-tac-toe—only to the opposition and their own party cheering on Martin in 30 and McLellan in 60, and the game ends with the PM finishing over in laughter. The two have been goofing around all through QP, writing and mouthing to friends in the galleries, as if they're a couple of kids in a school play who've just spotted their families in the audience.

It didn't seem to matter that their government was likely to lose last day. Last week, Martin was determined to put on a brave face, one that even-ogled into arrogance on occasion. He walked the halls at a leisurely pace, one hand in his pocket, head held high. He avoided his chair when others often nodded on his heels when being introduced and answered one probing journalist's question with a snubly side-glance. "McLellan, everyone?" At many engagements—including a meeting with the National Radio Table on the Environment and the Economy, an appearance at the annual gathering of the Canadian Arab Federation, and a speech to the Montreal chapter of the Lester Club (a group of elite Liberal supporters)—he was almost jovial. After all, he was playing Santa Claus, giving billions to various groups and causes (Things were a lot more serious at week's end at the international conference on Aboriginal affairs in Kelowna, B.C.—which began with the news of an armoured vehicle accident in Afghan-

istan that killed a Canadian soldier.)

There were times, though, that Martin's body language and behaviour could not hide his stress. At the meeting of the Arab Federation, Jack Layton, Stephen Harper and Gilles Duceppe mingled with about 100 guests, waiting for the PM to arrive. At 30 minutes after the appointed starting time, Harper's young aide gave him a one-minute warning. "Oh, we're going home," said the key leader. "I guess the man's here." Just then, Martin came through the door and the roomed face

**To his credit, Martin did sport one trendy item, a grey rubber band bracelet that said BLING**

to face. Martin extended his hand, but did everything to avoid eye contact, raising his gaze to a smileable above Harper's head. When they shook hands, Harper looked particularly fidgety in the seat. He crossed his legs and his hands, but Martin was somewhat calm, taking up his socks for the millionth time that day and leaning back in his chair. Duceppe and Layton appeared nervous and pointed, sarcastic even. Duceppe with his perfectly gelled hair and black slip-on shoes, and Layton with his gleaming blue eyes and black leather boots (To his credit, Martin did sport one trendy item, a grey rubber band bracelet that said BLING, which reads for Bling Love Is, Not Gays, a gift from the black

North Coalition, a group he'd met earlier.)

With all four leaders in attendance, it was hard to use this event as anything other than an early campaign stop—although that usually seemed less on Martin. He gave a pot-smoking speech, saying "Canada is a friend to the Arab world and Canada is a friend to Israel," announcing about a Christmas in Morocco, and dismissing issues the federation wanted addressed so he could talk investment. "We will discuss security and civil rights," he will certainly discuss the Middle East, and we will certainly discuss the rights and wrongs of what happens, but there are 300 million Arabs in the Arab world, they are skilled, they come from a great history, they understand how to make an economy work but what they need is investment, what they need is a credit, mostly to become a consumer, all of us, we have the opportunity to bring a different era to the Middle East."

Then it was Harper's turn to appear uncomfortable, with speech that reflected on state events such as, "My brother spent time at Yemen and Dubai and had lots of interesting things to tell me." Duceppe and Layton were the crowd pleasers—their tough talk on how the government must change the anti-terrorism legislation and put an end to racial profiling was met with cheers and applause. "I thought Martin's speech was very interesting," said Sarah Sabour, who belongs to the Canadian Friends of Israel, an evangelical peace organization. "He said, 'This is what the Arabs should do, you have to go out and get money and we'll help you and we'll fund your projects. But what we're really saying

was, 'Don't ask me to make any decisions, I'm only here because an election is around the corner.'" And yet, Martin was swarmed after the speeches, as he shook hands and posed for photos—staying so long that he upset the line, who was trying to settle the round-robin for the second portion of the program. "The Arab world is to be happy that they just came to your event," said Sabour.

In his final week before the official campaigning was set to begin, Martin showed me weakness: he just sat in quick-witted to his advantage. In a business comedy routine at the Arab event, Harper, Duceppe and Layton lightly and gently gauged up on Martin, leaving him at a loss for a snappy comeback. The PM is fond of water, drinking multiple glasses during QP, when giving a speech he'll take a sip to punctuate a joke or if he's looking for applause. Still, there was no surprise that when he took the podium, where there were two bottles of water for four speakers, he took one for himself—pouring into a glass. Next up, Harper gave his opening, and said, "The coincidence of the two guys behind me, I won't take the other bottle just for myself." When Layton reached the podium, he held up Martin's glass, saying he couldn't help but wonder if it was half empty or half full. Caught off guard, the PM barked out, "Full full"—but not before Duceppe deftly remarked, "That's a question of confidence."

The next night in front of the Lester Club, Martin wore a grey rubber band bracelet and less than five, and he reached in with a blue-grip tie, the same bold colour that had looked good on both Layton and Duceppe

the night before. Most importantly, there was no public such parking. The next conference embraced his son Duceppe message—"The Bloc claims to defend Quebec, but against what?"—allowing him a right of rib-rub rib campaign prep before heading off to the first news conference meeting in B.C.

Martin kept a low profile at the Grand Okanagan dinner in Kelowna, slipping in and out of back doors to avoid press scrums—although he did use a public washroom, making a strained TV cameraman at the wheel. "He spoke first," says the cameraman, who preferred to remain anonymous. "Just a 'Hi, how are you?' But when I left, his security guys gave me a look like, 'What the...?' They somehow missed me on their way out." And yes, Martin washed his hands.

Most of the 34 hours passed was spent at the bargaining table, doing out \$5.1 billion for Aboriginal housing, education and health. Throughout it all, Martin wore a Marti black slacks and a striped shirt and decorated with beads and an embroidered infinity sign. It was given to him during the opening ceremony by David Charnoff, president of the Manitoba Métis Federation. "That's like a \$2,000 jacket," commented Ken Phillips, a Miss

issouri State, B.C. "But as money for 30 billion, they must think it's worth the sacrifice."

The conference ran late into the night, and a reception was kept alive in hopes the PM would drop by. Martin was ready to do so, at around 9 p.m., but his handlers were trying to wrangle more people to walk to the restaurant with him (so if nearly a dozen security guards weren't enough company). He ended up walking to the event, where he chatted with Charnoff. But the PM's attention kept drifting to the photographer and TV cameramen accompanying him—just past because this was a good photo op, but also because the two were walking backwards in front of him and bumping into things. "Be careful, look out," he warned with genuine concern, before turning to his people to say, "Help show, that should be 'happy ending'."

Watching the headlines (which was on the coast, Martin had more presence than ever, and his face seemed puffed up with pride. "I think it's great, I love it," he says. "I don't know how they got to sit in it." Charnoff explained. "All these hugs we've been giving you over the years, we've actually been measuring you." Now it's Canada's turn to see Martin up-jet again. M



## RUDOLPH, THE RED-NOSED PRIME MINISTER

Tony MP Peter MacKay pulled up the House last week that "there was a feeling of Christmas in the air." The Christmas trees are now up here on Parliament Hill. Everyone is feeling very buoyant, as much as that we saw a red streak reflecting across the sky. I thought it was old St. Nick himself but it was a red Challenger jet with the Liberal logo "redemption" on the side and the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Nick was dropping bags of money across the country, not toys).

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SHIFT...tomorrow

IT WAS LIKE NOTHING WE'D  
EVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE.

But it's getting ahead of myself. Like most Saturdays, we were early. I shot out our emergency left-hand turn. We waded through the pile of newspaper, finally getting to Belvedere. I walked as if for a play we liked. At a place called Belvedere to the woods. Dounded different. We called to make reservations. A guy named Soliman told us they only play to five complete at a time and we were the LAST. To avoid a bit old, but we were up for an adventure. First we had a few drinks to relax. Belvedere last night's movie, Check. Pick up the script from the classroom. Check. My vegetables and other-old shoulder from the farmer's market. Check. We were eager to leave the city behind for the day so we hit the highway early. We drove with the windows down, fresh air and sunlight was rushing away the rest week. Stopped at a garage sale. Stopped at a mission and seeing their. Stopped at a village bakery. Picked up the best butter butter ever. Stopped to take photos of an ancient collapsed barn. Finally, after passing it three times, we found the town-of-Eden had described. We followed the narrow dirt road as it curved through hills. The sun was almost down. We were getting a bit late. In the end...

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Bono, Stephen Lewis and David Suzuki have the best intentions, but they don't necessarily have the right answers

## THREE SMARTER WAYS TO SAVE THE WORLD

THIS WEEK:

### Steve Maich on the real air problem

This week in Montreal, the start of the world environmental movement will gather to celebrate their greatest victory—consensus on the Kyoto Protocol—and to plan their next steps in the new global warming. After an exhaustive seven-year fight, the treaty came into force earlier this year, and a single creed of focus on reducing carbon emissions is now the central organizing principle of Greens everywhere. At this week's United Nations Climate Change Conference, a long list of scientists, bureaucrats and lobbyists aims to take David Suzuki's well-worn, a call for deeper, faster and more costly cuts in greenhouse gases. But another faction of economists and lawmakers will also be there, arguing that the case for Kyoto has fallen apart.

These critics are not the usual die-hard and pseudo-scientists who deny the very existence of global warming and the greenhouse effect. They are environmentalists who believe Kyoto is a dangerously flawed agreement—an enormously expensive political document, full of loopholes and exceptions, that will send the world's attention from more dangerous forms of air pollution, while doing little to address the long-term trajectory of climate change.

The most prominent voice in this emerging school of "environmental realists" is David Suzuki's academic friend, Lomborg, architect of last year's Copenhagen Consensus project, which argued against the Kyoto Protocol. Lomborg and others have convinced the members on climate change, and say the preoccupation with carbon dioxide emissions may be leading the world down a dangerous path. "Global warming is real and it is a problem," Lomborg says. "But the central problem of the Kyoto Protocol is that it will achieve very little at a very high cost. It's just not a good way of dealing with the problems we're facing."

That conclusion is being bolstered by a growing pool of research suggesting that the social and health benefits of the Kyoto Protocol are far outweighed by its staggering economic costs. Prof. Robert Mendelsohn at Yale University is an economist who has dedicated much of his career to quantifying the economic costs of environmental damage, and has emerged as one of North America's

most respected critics of the Kyoto approach. Mendelsohn is one of dozens of prominent academics who have tried to quantify the value of occasional economic benefits by long-term global warming, taking into account likely adaptations to climate change, and discounting the costs back to arrive at a present-day value. According to Mendelsohn's research, every tonne of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere does approximately \$450 of present-day damage to the environment. And since you look at the problem on this basis, he says, countries like Canada should be limiting their spending to a maximum of \$450 per tonne to reduce emissions. "The trick is not to commit to a draconian program to solve this long-term problem immediately," Mendelsohn wrote last year. "Draconian programs are extremely poor investments. The world simply should not support such extreme measures when there are so many other pressing issues at hand."

From Mendelsohn's perspective, Canada's plan would certainly qualify as draconian. Canada has agreed to reduce its carbon emissions to 6 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010—a goal of approximately 130 to 160 megatonnes. Others have pointed out that this goal is now a pipe dream. That said, however, it is unlikely that first proponents of the treaty will spend through three main strategies—a Climate Fund, a Partnership Fund, and a collection of smaller programs aimed at improving energy efficiency—the government will pay up to \$16

billion to cut up to 240 megatonnes. That works out to \$447.66 for every tonne, at almost eight times the amount that Mendelsohn considers justified. And that number does not include the money that corporations will have to spend in order to meet Canada's Kyoto commitment, or the lost economic opportunity caused by curbing growth.

And for what? Even hard-core Kyoto believers acknowledge the agreement will achieve little on its own. For one thing, the treaty only applies to a handful of rich nations—particularly Canada, members of the European Union, and Japan. Major polluters in the developing world, including China and India, are not required to make any reductions, and the world's biggest emitter, the United States, did not study the treaty. As a result, worldwide emissions will only be cut by roughly five per cent from current levels at the most. "Kyoto is a mere drop in the bucket," says Nigel Rucker, a professor of geography and director of McGill University's school of environment. "The agreement will delay the doubling of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by

Some experts now argue the case for the Kyoto accord has fallen apart



CLIMATE COAL PLANT While it contributes to global warming, CO<sub>2</sub> is not toxic for humans



**AIR POLLUTION:** Kyoto supporters like Suzuki (center) insist that reducing greenhouse gases is financially important, yet many experts argue particulates from car engines and coal-burned fossil power plants—largely ignored by Kyoto—pose a far more immediate threat to human health.

so to 15 years. To really reap global warming, you don't need a six per cent reduction; you need 60 or 70 per cent. Is that feasible? We need to start talking about the costs of climate change versus the costs of stopping it."

As it stands now, those costs are not well understood. In general, it appears that countries closer to the equator will be hardest hit, while countries like Canada and Russia might actually benefit from longer growing seasons and more arable land. And yet, Canada is being asked to carry a disproportionate share of Kyoto's costs, critics say. Under the treaty, European nations agreed to cut gases by about eight per cent from current levels, and Japan by about five per cent. Russia actually substantially increases emissions, and will likely turn Kyoto into a money market by selling so-called emission credits to the rest of the world. Canada, which represents less than two per cent of global emissions, must cut its release of gases by 24 per cent from 2005 levels. "Some

## The treaty applies only to a handful of rich nations

countries get off light and some took a very heavy burden," Mendelsohn says. "Canada will be in a particularly disadvantageous position because not only are you spending more than it makes sense to spend, you're spending a lot more than everybody else."

Still, Canada's leading environmental activists are demanding Canada commit to even deeper cuts, as a potentially massive cost, to set an example for the rest of the world. Last week, the David Suzuki Foundation released a new report calling for greenhouse gas releases to be cut so 15 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010, and 60 per cent by 2050.

Most everyone that what Kyoto does, however, is what it fails to do, experts say. Most scientists agree the most dangerous environmental pollutants today are man-made particulates that come from car engines and combustion-based power plants, but those pollutants are largely ignored by the Kyoto Protocol. The two most common causes of particulates are sulphur dioxide ( $SO_2$ ) and nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ )—chemicals with a litany of well-documented health effects, from chronic bronchitis and asthma to lung cancer and various forms of heart disease. Sulphur dioxide causes acid rain and nitrogen oxides are major contributors to urban smog.

Last year, the city of Toronto released a study estimating that particulate air pollution contributes to approximately 1,700 premature deaths and 6,000 hospitalizations in the city every year. A 2000 California study released by the American Lung Association argued air pollution contributes to almost as

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YEARS OF GENIAL: Refugees (left), Spaniards watching the brigades leave (right) "I hope you never have to carry a gun," says one U.S. soldier.

## A wound that won't heal

### Spaniards are just now talking about their war

**BY MICHAEL PETERKO** Last week, Spaniards marked the 70th anniversary of the death of former dictator Francisco Franco, whose regime murdered tens of thousands of political opponents. A descendant of the dictator's supporters gathered for a Catholic service at his grave in the Valley of the Fallen, an ominous underground basilica carved out of living rock and topped by a haunting 17th-century statue. There were both by-standers and Republican prisoners of war, the latter in Spain's civil war of 1936-1939, who squandered the money they died in the process. Franco's victims and opponents also marked the dictator's death last week, with masses, and often that they have outlived him, and with pride that a democracy has replaced his dictatorship.

In Spain, the civil war has almost faded from living memory, but it is still a wound that will not heal. The conflict began in a right-wing military rebellion against the democratic government elected by the people.



THEY DON'T FORGET: Supporters of Franco on the 70th anniversary of his death

troops to fight with Franco, and the Soviet Union sent soldiers to fight against him. Some 40,000 volunteers known as the International Brigades also joined the fight against Franco in Spain, including 5,700 from Canada.

When it was over, all the internationalists who had not died in the war were sent home. Spaniards were left to live with the aftermath of a brutal war that had killed brothers and neighbors and enemies. "After the war, it was so terrible. People said this can never happen again, and so the soldiers were not to talk about

it," says Eduard Selaia, a Catalan university professor who grew up in post-civil war Spain. Selaia's wife, Isabel Goya, says that even after Franco's death, no one wanted to acknowledge the war. In Spain, this is known as the *punto del olvido*, an agreement to forget.

On a recent day, Selaia and Goya are among a small group of Republican supporters who have gathered to commemorate the war and

## One group has been working to exhume secret mass graves

to honor Milton Wolff, a 90-year-old American veteran of the International Brigades who has returned to Spain, and to the village of Elxerest of Barcelona. Wolff, the last survivor of the American Abraham Lincoln Battalion of the brigades, led an assault on the town 67 years ago and was captured. Now, a plan is to be unveiled in his honor.

The team have a former war. Wolff is an impressive man—bustling, dark-skinned, well over six feet tall, with a booming Brooklyn accent, a goatee and a shock of white hair. First, Herreria was captured by Wolff during the war and made his first home in his early years as a war correspondent in Spain. He was "as brave and as good a soldier as any that commanded battalions in Germany," Herreria wrote. "He is alive and ardent by the same heart that lives in the tall poles in the standing where a hurricane has passed." Now, decades later, Wolff returns. "I think now that I get it

a drinking contest with Herreria—because nobody could drink more than that guy."

Then the plaque dedicated to Herreria, Wolff, and other international volunteers who came to Spain to fight for the republic is revealed. Camera flash and Spanish television inside the event. "Now, more than 67 years later, I am where I wanted to be 67 years ago," Wolff says. "It does my heart as much good to see so many Spanish young people here, living so well, against Franco and against war. I'm so happy that you're so happy. You all look so beautiful, you young people. I hope you never have to carry a gun. Carry flowers."

Wolff says away from the microphone and embraces Goya's son, an Italian internationalist brigadier who has also come back to Spain, and Leonardo Selaia, a Spaniard who fought against Franco and then spent almost a decade in prison after the war. It is a moving moment. But Selaia says that few of those watching are actually from the village of Elxerest. "In small villages, it never more intense," he says, referring to the *punto del olvido*. "The cause here everyone knows what their neighbors and grandmothers and grandfathers did. It was terrible, and it was terrible again."

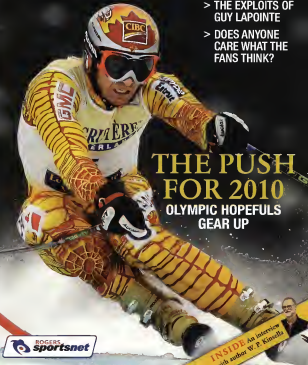
But in Spain, like everywhere else, the past won't stay buried. For the past five years, a group called the Association for the Recovery of Historical Memory has been working to find and exhume secret mass graves where it suspected victims and prisoners of war were buried. These may never be exhumation because those who remain and those who believe Franco's demands, the Spaniards are now beginning to speak openly about their war. "After, there was so much grief and sadness and loss," Goya says. "So people didn't talk about it. It is only in the last five or 10 years that this has happened. And it's a good thing." ■

DECEMBER 1, 2005

# sportsnet

## the magazine

- > THE LEGENDARY RED FISHER
- > THE EXPLOITS OF GUY LAPOINTE
- > DOES ANYONE CARE WHAT THE FANS THINK?



## THE PUSH FOR 2010

### OLYMPIC HOPEFULS GEAR UP



#### THE CZECH REPUBLIC: SLOWS AT THE TOP

The co-author of a new book published in Prague has charged that Czech politicians have played a central role in the country's economic decline. A former spokesman for president Václav Havel, Kocourek (left) says such as former prime minister Stanislav Gross simply couldn't put a book together. Gross's misadventures, including arriving at the site of an explosion destined to be a disaster, says Kocourek's poor style sense is a disaster from the back days of Communism.



INSIDE An interview with author W. P. Kinsella





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# SPORTSNET: The Magazine

**ON THE COVER**  
Canada's Thomas Grandt clears a gate during the men's final World Cup Giant Slalom in Switzerland. Photos: AP/Wide World Photos, Andrew Tobin (Toronto)

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I first met Red Fisher roughly 20 years ago while covering a Canadian practice at the old Montreal Forum.

You didn't have to be a National Newspaper Award-winning reporter (Red has two) to figure out that you were in the presence of someone special. It was the same feeling you got when you hung around a rink with the likes of Frank Oer or Mike Deneault or Rick Fraser or Jas Coleman.

To call those years the Golden Era of Canadian sports writing might not be all that much of a stretch.

Back then, Fisher was merely entering his 30th season of covering the Canadians.

Incredibly, two decades later, Fisher is an even bigger legend in the hockey-writing fraternity, at an age when his former co-leagues have either retired or gone to that big media centre in the sky. He may not travel as often as he did, but as D'Arcy Jenish points out, Fisher remains every bit as relevant a voice and as elegant a wordsmith as ever.

For me, as a young reporter, watching Fisher work was fascinating. Come to think of it, it was damn near impossible. One minute he would be there, waiting with the media masses to get into the dressing room, the next minute the door would swing open and he would gone.

You see, Fisher seldom ever

showed up or worked in the park, preferring to cultivate his sources within the dressing room to find a unique angle or explanation for what was happening with the Habs. And if there was news, he usually had it first.

Although times have definitely changed in pro sports, and not always for the better, Fisher remains a compelling read at *The Globe*.

"Sports can be fun, so much fun," Fisher says. "But it's changed—people have nothing to say."

Fifty years later, Fisher hasn't changed—and he still has lots to say. And it's worth your while to listen.

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Confident Canadians view the '06 Games in Italy as a launching pad to a 2010 medal-fest in B.C.

## 7 The legendary Red Fisher

Fifty years ago, a great sportswriter began covering a great team. The rest is history.

## 10 The Exploits of Guy

Underrated on the ice, the Canadiens' Hall of Fame defenceman was a force to be reckoned with off it as well.

## 13 Interview

For W. P. Kinella, the Field of Dreams has become a nightmare.

## 14 Game Over

Why can't all athletes be like Colin Doyle and all leagues like the NHL?



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Allison Forsyth and the rest of our Olympic team are repped up by a revitalized sports system and increased corporate support.

# BACK ON TRACK

**Confident Canadians view the '06 Games in Italy as a launching pad to a 2010 medal-fest in B.C.**

BY JAMES DEACON

**I**t could have been just another pre-Olympic press conference, but it wasn't. And that alone could be enough to give Canadians a whiff of optimism about our country's chances in upcoming Winter Games.

Last month, General Motors announced it was renewing its sponsorship of Alpine Canada and signing a major deal with the Canadian Olympic Committee and Vancouver-Whistler organizers to help underwrite the 2010 Winter Games. As expected, the usual speedily and backslapping honours the auto giant's longstanding commitment to sport in Canada.

But before that, and without any sugary introductions, Thomas Gossels, the leader of the men's alpine team, took the podium and opened the event by talking about racing, the importance of being prepared, and how sponsorship money helps his team's chances in Turin next February.

That alone was significant. Athletes never get top billing at these affairs—corporate events are almost always fronted by slicker guys in suits and designed to give the sponsors maximum exposure. The people who actually race and ski and skate for Canada—the ones who might win medals and bring honour to the nation—are too often asked to speak only

when spoken to, and to smile appropriately at all the right moments. But here, Gossels—ranked third in giant slalom going into this World Cup season—was the host and rightful face of his sport and of GM's multi-million-dollar campaign.

The second extraordinary aspect of the event was the hosts' confidence demonstrated by the skiers in attendance. Forget personal fears—they expect to win medals in Turin.

Take Allison Forsyth, the nine-year veteran from Moncton, N.C. "We're all glad to say we're good," says Forsyth, 25, "and we're determined to back that up." Then there's Patrick Bigger, a tall, gangly and talented 23-year-old who's embarking on his first full World Cup season and aiming at his first Olympics. He's more likely a medal threat at the 2010 Games, but he's not raising himself out in '06. "The jump

isn't that scary. The reason? They've been prepared than ever by a revitalized sports system in Canada.

"They're going to the Olympics to win a place on the podium, and it's our job to help them," says Alex Gardewin, the COC's director of international performance. "So that's what we're doing."

Here, in a nutshell, are the COC's predictions for the coming Games.

Officials have set a target of 25 medals and third place overall, a nearly 50-per-cent increase over the 17 medals won in 2002. They arrived at these aggressive totals by adding up the Canadian medalists (24) at last season's world championships at the various Olympic sports, and announced the target last winter. "Last year we had one of the best winter seasons we've ever had, and what you're seeing is the continuation," Chris Butler, the COC's chief executive, said at the time.

**"We're not afraid to say we're good and we're prepared to back that up."**

totally earned," said Bigger, from Orleans, Ont. "There's a great feeling around this team."

Confidence is never in short supply among world-class athletes, but it's more abundant than ever on Canadian teams these days. You don't hear the old complaints of underfunding or poor access to training and competition anymore. Instead, the athletic borders are

"This is indicative of some systemic changes we've made."

The COC knows that past results mean nothing—Canada's record of converting top world championship results into Olympic medals is fairly dismal. But this team has other reasons for optimism: The system sports system is under major renovation.

Since 2003, Ottawa has nearly doubled its winter sport budget to \$140 million a year, more or less restoring the cash that was taken away in the 1990s. The COC has increased its direct funding to top-performing athletes, and to \$110 million. Over the 2006 program, designed to push the way it trains to the top of the medal standings in 2010, is making a difference for Winter-bound competitors. And with the Vancouver-Whistler Games' marketing bonanza in view, the country's biggest companies—BCI, Royal Bank, Petro-Canada and GM among them—are adding more millions in sponsorships.

The revamped has supported athletes. Suddenly there's money for off-season training, travel to competitions, physiotherapy and technical support. Skiers, for instance, get to train in GM's state-of-the-art wind tunnel in Michigan to improve their aerodynamics. And long-track speed skaters now have a blade technician visiting full-time at the Olympic Oval in Calgary.

"It's difficult to know exactly where all the new funding is coming from," says speed skater Clara Hughes, the only Canadian athlete ever to win medals at both Summer and Winter Games. "But compared to even a few years ago, there have definitely been huge changes for the better."



At 25, Patrick Bigger (left) applies an uncharacteristically fresh Canadian contingent. Clara Hughes (above) is the only Canadian ever to win medals at both the Summer and Winter Games.

## "I have everything I need to compete so now it's up to me."

In such a positive atmosphere, it's tough to find skeptics. But it's also difficult to imagine winning eight more medals in 2006. The 2002 finish was a winter record for Canada, and it was achieved largely thanks to a terrific second-week performance in Salt Lake City. And it's impossible to know



Alpine Canada President Ken Read, a member of the Grey Cougars in the '70s and a two-time Olympian, sets the youngest ever skier to win a World Cup at the age of 26.

if a year of intense training and some

improved sport management can so quickly make up for a decade of neglect. Besides, it won't long ago that the COC and elite sport federations focused more on administration than on helping athletes. It was as if the system was designed to frustrate, rather than support, competitors' aspirations.

Efforts to improve that system took two big hits recently. Mark Lowy, the COC's longtime executive director for sport who helped initiate the Owen The Politics Plus, died of pancreatic cancer on Oct. 23. Lowy had the credibility and personality to marshal the warring factions within amateur sports. Then Liberal MP Paul DeVillan, who spearheaded a plan to gather the various sports-related offices in Ottawa in one federal ministry, quit the job when his own government refused to give sport a place at the Cabinet table. Both are blows, officials say, but not mortal.

Alpine Canada boss Ken Read says he lacks of coordination among sport bodies in Ottawa is not "the optimal situation, but we'll still get the job done." And Goodner says Lowy's death was tragic, but his vision carries on. "We all believed in his vision," Goodner adds, "and if anything, Mark's passing fills the rest of us with even greater resolve."

Olympians point to the fact that it's not just officials who are talking big. Most athletes are, too.

Bobsleigh pilot Pierre Lueders bristled when the COC pencilled him in for two medals (two- and four-man), but most other athletes interviewed said they like the fact that their organizations are setting high goals. And they appreciate that after years of cutbacks, the path for success in 2010 is becoming their fortunes today.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do really well," Forsyth says, "so we're all just going to go for it."

Hughes, meanwhile, says she has already filled out her pre-Turn preparation checklist and is ready for the challenge. "I have everything I need to compete," she says. "So now, it's up to me." **■**  
Since 1992, James Doherty has been responsible for Mackenzie's Olympic coverage.



## THE LEGENDARY **RED** FISHER

**Fifty years ago, a great sports-writer began covering a great team. The rest is history.**

BY D'ARCY JENISN

**F**ifty years ago, Red Fisher's career covering the Montreal Canadiens ended with a bang—literally.

The legendary Montreal Gazette sportsman who turns 79 this year covered his first Canadiens game on March 12, 1955, the night of the famous Richard riot. He was working for the *Montreal Star*—he stayed with the paper until it folded in 1979—and had a seat near centre ice about 10 rows up. Everyone expected trouble after NHL president Clarence Campbell suspended Maurice Richard for attacking an official a few nights earlier in Boston.

Stay calm, during the first intermission, a fan attacked Campbell. Someone threw a stick bomb. Bédard erupted. The Canadiens conceded the game to the Detroit Red Wings. Fans fled the Forum and met in angry mobs outside. That's when the riot began.

Fisher caught Detroit manager Jack Adams in the middle of a heated rant. Standing in the middle of the dressing room, fist sport, gesticulating furiously,

he roared, face red, Adams was howling "I'm disgusted, sick and, what's more, I blame you fellows, the newspapers who have built Richard into a hero, an idol whose superstition can turn these great fans into a shrieking band of idiots!"

It was an extraordinary start to a colourful career.

That fall, Fisher began his half-century as a beat reporter by covering what many call the greatest hockey team ever—the Canadiens who won five straight Stanley Cups between 1955 and 1960. He has been there



Fisher represents what he wrote in 1955: "With Michel (Richard), whose brother's best friend is a Montreal Canadiens fan, the Canadiens are back in the game."



"I said: 'How much do you pay?'"  
 "He said: 'Nothing.'"  
 "I said: 'I'll take it.'"

for 17 of the team's 24 Cup victories and covered more than 40 firsts. He won two National Newspaper Awards, has been nominated twice more since turning 70, and is rightly regarded as an icon of Canadian sports journalism.

Fisher grew up as a sports-crazy kid in a working-class Montreal neighbourhood called The Main. His father owned a second-hand shoe store. Red and his three sisters were

but spent eight years in public relations after a year in college.

During that stint, he began freelancing on weekends for a suburban newspaper, the *Notre-Dame-de-Grace Mirror*.

"I phoned the owner and to tell him I'd be interested in writing sports stories for them. He said, 'Fine. You're hired.'"

"I said: 'How much do you pay?'"

"He said: 'Nothing.'"

"I said: 'I'll take it.'"

That led to a Saturday job with the *Standard* at \$35 a day, a princely sum since he was earning \$320 a week at his PW job. He covered everything from hockey to disabilities. From there, he took a Saturday position at the *Star* and then went full-time.

Fisher started on the Canadiens' beat at a time when sportswriters, athletes, coach-

es and team administrators enjoyed a now unimaginable camaraderie. He and his fellow journalists traveled to road games on the team's private railway car. They even received \$20-a-day meal money from the Canadiens. Most nights on the road, he and the French reporter Jacques Boutchamp had dinner with Canadiens' coach Toe Blake.

But that doesn't mean Fisher was soft on the people he was writing about.

He and Blake didn't talk for eight months after a disagreement. He and Glen Sather, another close friend, ignored each other for months due to a dispute.

He infiltrated the NHL brass in 1979 with an investigative series based on a confidential report to the owner by then-president Campbell, which showed that team profits were at an all-time high and the return to players at historic lows.

Campbell phoned the day before the series began and asked Fisher how he could quote him when they had never discussed player salaries.

"I said, 'I just happen to have your confidential report to the governor.'"

He said: "Well, if I'm misquoted, I'll sue." I said: "That'll be hard to do because we've got your report."

Fisher was an NNA for the series but



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**BE A PART OF IT!**

Decorative photo, Fisher still owns the official and exclusive rights to today's Canadiens first and last lines to suit him with longtime friend Toe Blake, the legendary Montreal coach [p.7].



Dear Jays Fans:

For the True Blue Jays Fan, it's never too early to dream about Opening Day in April and on behalf of your Toronto Blue Jays I'd like you to participate in another great season with us in 2006.

Last season, the Jays provided us with the exciting and competitive blend of baseball that had us either on the edge of our seats or on our feet throughout the season. General Manager, J.P. Ricciardi and Field Manager, John Gibbons did an outstanding job. Several new players such as Russ Adams, Aaron Hill, Gustavo Chacin and Corey Koskie (our only Canadian player) helped the Club win 13 more games than in 2004. Vernon Wells and Orlando Hudson were honoured with Rawlings Gold Glove Awards. And, we look for even greater results next season, when ace pitcher Roy "Doc" Halsey will be back on the mound, along with some great arms and bats from our flourishing Minor League system.

Attendance at Rogers Centre increased to over two million in 2005 because our fans believe in their Toronto Blue Jays and like the direction they're headed. We hope you'll be back too, and bring a long family and friends to be a part of the pennant drive in 2006.

We're very excited to walk you through some of the improvements that were realized in 2005 with the purchase of Rogers Centre and highlight some of the things to come in 2006 in the following pages. We've also outlined some of our products—from Flex Packs to Season Tickets, Luxury Suites to our anticipated new Club 200 VIP section—we're sure to have something for every Blue Jays fan whether it is for business or pleasure!

Be part of it. Get down to the park and cheer your team. See you Opening Day  
**GO JAYS!**

Sincerely,

Paul V. Godfrey  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Toronto Blue Jays Baseball Club

TO GET TO THE HEAD OF THE LINE AND RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW  
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- **Youth Movement:** A renewed effort on drafting and developing talented youngsters has begun to pay off. Rookies like Gustavo Chacin, Russ Adams and Aaron Hill all made an impact in 2005.
- **There's More Coming:** Adams and Hill represent the first wave of talent moving through a replenished Jays farm system—and there are more coming.
- **A Redesigned 100 Level Concourse:** The 100 Level will feature new interactive kiosks, new food selections, and an expanded, new-look concourse PLUS a new interactive Kid Zone on the 200 Level.
- **Maximize Your Business Entertainment Experience:** Monumental changes being made include a new, expanded Luxury Suite to accommodate larger groups of up to 150 people; full renovations of 40 Luxury Suites; upgrade of Suite kitchens to enrich the food experience; new meeting space with enhanced technology and everything you need to complete your meeting.

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THE TORONTO BLUE JAYS FLEX PACK

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Every Saturday is Jr. Jays Saturday! Kids can enjoy interactive activities such as face painting, pitching cage and caricature artists. After the game, the fun doesn't stop—kids can also run the bases like the pros. All you need is a ticket!



### LADIES NIGHT OUT

Looking for an excuse for an evening out with the girls? The first Friday of every month (excluding April), you can enjoy watching the Toronto Blue Jays play at Rogers Centre, then attend a "Baseball 101" session with the players and coaches of the team. For more information, call Mink Palmer at 416 341 1126.

### BABIES AT THE BALLPARK

Attention all Moms and Dads on maternity/paternity leave! Come down to Rogers Centre to catch a weekday Blue Jays game and sit in a family designated area. We supply private

change table area, diapers, wipes and juice drinks. Get your mom's group out for a fun day at the ball park—with all of the stimulation the Jays game offers, we almost guarantee your baby will sleep through the night!

**2006 Dates:** (all games are 12:37 pm starts)  
Wednesday, April 19; Thursday, May 11;  
Thursday, June 15; Wednesday, August 9

For more information, please call Paul Rabreau at 416 341 1670.

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Visit [bluejays.com](http://bluejays.com) for information on how to become a member of the 2006 Blue Jays Kids Club.





# THE EXPLOITS OF GUY

Underrated on the ice, the Canadiens' Hall of Fame defenceman was a force to be reckoned with off it as well

BY TIM WHARNSBY

Cousin Scotty Bowman kept his dynamic Montreal Canadiens on their toes during games and practices. But in the dressing room, the team hotel, restaurants and everywhere else, Guy Lapointe had his moments on notice.

The Hall of Fame defenceman was—and still is—a Hall of Fame prankster. One of crafty old No. 5's finest moments was when he was with Team Canada for the 1976 Canada Cup.

The players had just received their room-and-diner duds: new jacket, pants, shirt and shoes. While Canada was on the ice practicing, Lapointe slipped back unnoticed into the dressing room and shuffled everyone's clothing into different stalls.

"It took us half an hour to sort every-

thing out," says Larry Robinson, Lapointe's long-time teammate with the Canadiens. "Of course, Guy did it to himself, too, so nobody knew it was him. But I know who did it."

Lapointe, a six-time Stanley Cup winner with the Habs, was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1993. He enjoyed a 16-year career and became only the fifth defenceman to score 20 or more goals in a season back in 1974-75.

"Guy kept our team pretty loose," Robinson said.

"But he was one heck of a hockey player. He was probably the lesser known of the Big Three with [Serge Savard] and me. But Guy was probably the most underrated player I played with."

One time, Savard was supposed to give a between-period interview on television. After Lapointe overheard Savard tell a reporter to have his false teeth ready at the end of the period for the interview, he switched his dentures with Savard's. When Savard sat

down in front of the camera, his first comment was nothing but muffled gibberish.

Leaving practice one snowy day, Robinson couldn't wait to climb inside his car and warm up.

"When I turned my wiper on it only made it worse," he recalls. "I had Vaseline on my wipers. Guy spread it on pretty good."

**"It didn't matter if it was Pierre Trudeau or René Lévesque, I shook their hand with Vaseline."**

I couldn't see. So I had to drive around with my head out the window, looking for the nearest gas station. I was freezing. He pulled the perfect day."

Fifty-year Ken Dryden. The legendary goaltender was Lapointe's roommate for a stretch, and as such was a regular Lapointe victim.

"Kenney loved his ice cream," Lapointe said. "One time, when I noticed that everyone had eaten their ice cream, I said 'Guys, I can't

Guy Lapointe's induction in 1993 into the Hockey Hall of Fame (below) followed a brilliant career as a defenceman in which he scored 662 points during his 16th NHL games.





eat my ice cream. Does anyone want it?" Kenny put his hand up. I gave it to him and everybody watched him take a mouthful.

"I had applied the ice cream with a scoop of sour cream covered in chocolate sauce." It got to the point where every morning the guys would show up for practice and

see if their jocks to see if Guy put some hot stuff on them," Robinson said. "You had to be on your toes."

Besides his hockey equipment, Lapointe brought a small toilet and lots of Vaseline on the road. Sometimes he would slip back to the hotel at night before his teammates left the restaurant to change the men on the room doors or barely graze at the door knobs, so nobody could get inside their rooms.

After games at the Montreal Forum, he would grab a handful of Vaseline because there was always some dignity being adhered

around the dressing room.

"It didn't matter if it was Pierre Tardieu or René Lévesque, I shook their hand with them with Vaseline in my hand," said Lapointe, now the Minnesota Wild's coordinator of amateur scouting. "All the guys would be watching because they knew what I would be up to."

One of his oldest, but goodies, was to put water on a chair before his victims sat down.

"I think his wife still chides him about every time she is about to sit down," said former Canadiens forward Doug Sutherland, now the Wild general manager.

Rothschild knows first-hand that Lapointe, now 57, has not changed his clowning ways.

There was a lot of doom and gloom at the 2004 National Hockey League draft because of the impending lockout. But Lapointe kept things light for the Wild scouting department.

Before they headed out for dinner one night, he showed one of the club's new scouts with a bucket of water in the hotel from a few floors up.

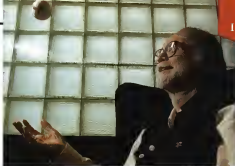
"This guy was a little nervous because it was his first draft for us," Rothschild said. "He was all dressed up in his suit and now he was soaked."

"He didn't even bother looking up. He just said, 'Guy.'"

Tim Whitely is a senior partner with the Globe and Mail.



(Clockwise from top left) Lapointe's autograph of the Team Canada 72 who were also Stanley Cup winners; Lapointe, including the 1984-85 season; Lapointe with his son, Scott; Lapointe (right) and George Savelle (left).



**L**ike the magical comic film he brought to life in *Shogun*, W. P. Kinsella's vision of baseball was open to those who believed it existed. But what happens when the ink turns to anger and the magic fades to melancholy? Now, 23 years after the voices heard by an improvident Iowa farmer built the stage for *Field of Dreams*, Kinsella has a new muse.

W. P. KINSELLA TALKS WITH RYAN JOHNSTON

**SN** The fact you no longer hold baseball in such high regard reads like a synopsis for your next novel, except it isn't fiction. What happened?

**WP** The game itself is always wonderful, it's just economically the people associated with it aren't. Really the order in 1994, that is when I stopped going to baseball games. I said, I am never going to put any money into the pockets of these two groups of millionaires who hold the fans in absolute contempt, and I haven't bought a ticket since then. I mean I used to go to Seattle and spend huge amounts of money on hotels and food as so on, and stay for 10-day baseball weekends, and I just stopped doing it, and I haven't missed it at all.

**SN** With each year since emerging as the *White Sox*, do you sit

around returning to the ballpark? **WP** I am too old to make the long trips (he's 70), I sawed I would never go to another game as long as the players who went on strike were still active in the game, and there are still quite a

few fans who hope they can force him into retirement before he can break Hank Aaron's record, it would be a tragedy to the game for a real gentleman like Hank Aaron to have a real jerk like Bonds break his record.

**SN** Are you a hockey fan?  
**WP** Err, no.

**SN** Are you intrigued by the connection the game of hockey has received despite holding fans hostage for over a year?  
**WP** Hockey fans are phantoms for period except after being again in the middle of the two groups

**"Hockey fans... should be booing the players off the ice."**

few of them around, but maybe in another five years. But I have gotten along real well without live games.

**SN** Do you think there should be awards added to post-strike baseball?  
**WP** I think certainly on (Barry Bonds and probably (Mark McGwire, and I guess probably (Garryy) Sosa. But certainly Bonds, he is such a colossal jerk

of millionaires who hold them in absolute contempt. The stadiums should be empty and they should be booing the players off the ice.

**SN** Assuming a few of a few of fans, why do you think it has taken so long to move, considering baseball is in America as today as it ever was?  
**WP** You have to give the NHL

credit, they've done a remarkable advertising campaign, I mean, even I, who could care less about hockey, I wouldn't go if you gave me free tickets forever, but you have to admire the advertising campaign.

**SN** So without baseball, do you have a new muse?

**WP** I retired from fiction writing, oh yeah, it must be about eight years ago now. I write a weekly column for the *Winnipeg Free Press*, and I travel around to a lot of Scribble tournaments in North America.

**SN** Do you play anonymously? Or do you give yourself up for writing that you are published authors?

**WP** I am not a top player. I can't play with the big dogs.

**SN** So Scribble has yet to wrap baseball?

**WP** I know my limits. Like in baseball I would be a benchwarmer in class D. In Scribble I am a little better, there are four divisions, and I am a top four or five player in division four. But, there are huge disparities. There are some really, really fine players, the guys who know tens of thousands of words, while knowing the seven- and eight-letter words, where I do not do that, I know my two- to five-letter words and I can make an occasional bingo, but I do not have the stamina or the desire to learn 10,000 words.

**SN** Do you know the word score for *Winnipeg*?

**WP** (Laughs) no.

Ryan Johnston is Senior Editor at *Cohesion*, *Sportsman* at





my kind, mining or forestry," says Borg. The province

are heightened by the political atmosphere of the lead-up to Chile's December presidential election, he says. But while the election campaign has shed new light on the issue of mining projects like Pascua Lama, nothing is likely to significantly shift government policy in the politically volatile country, including views on foreign investment. Bannick considers it will eventually win a approval sometime next year, and have the same meeting by 2009.

The company has gone to some lengths to justify its plans to appease the local farmers, adding more protections to protect the water, and agreeing to track away soil displaced by the mine to another nearby glacial. The company says only 0.1 to 0.4 per cent of the loess in the river basin will be affected. Farmers in the river valley signed a US\$60 million, 20-year deal with Barrick to mitigate any damages, and two weeks ago voted 95 per cent in favour of Barrick's latest submission to the Chilean environmental authorities. Bannick may also have overstated a major landfill last month when a group of independent geologists said the six giant Pascua Lama is not technically a glacier after all, but merely a soil field, something the mine's opponents discount out of hand, and even Barrick has refrained from playing up.

But these developments are unlikely to



STEVE MAIR

Last week, an official with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission told the Globe and Mail that the agency has noted more and more embedded advertisements being woven into prime time television shows. This was very worrying, since embedded ads have been around for, oh, about a decade now. You'd have to think the CRTC had noticed them entirely. Those ads are of concern to Ottawa because the Canadian TV rule book says there can't be any more than 12 minutes of commercials every hour. If those reality ads keep getting around, the government's sacred regulatory scheme, well, the scheme may have to be changed. For the time being, the commission is just "keeping an eye on it." If any changes become necessary, the official assured, the commission would consult the public on what to do.

And thank goodness for that. It's concerning to know that, before government does anything to help, people will have the opportunity to speak into Canada's regulators to relate heart-breaking tales of how Canadian culture was threatened, and their viewing experience marred, by a can of Pepsi and a bag of Doritos in the latest episode of *Survivor*. Why, if this keeps up, nobody'll know when to go to the bathroom. At least the mighty CRTC, in hot pursuit of on-airway problems to solve.

Just one little hitch: doesn't it sting the CRTC can realistically do to control embedded advertising. Will the commission block the show 24 from Canadian viewers? Will it make producers blurt out conspicuous corporate logos or dub over favourable speeches of sponsors' products? Start thinking about the practical realities of this new ad model and it's clear the CRTC has fallen hopelessly behind the times. But it should be getting used to those humbling displays of its irrelevance.

Last spring, the regulator was preoccupied with the question of subscription-based and free radio services in Canada. The CRTC knew there was no way to stop satellite radio—already five million Americans were signed up to receive the broadcasts for a monthly fee, and it was estimated that about 100,000 Canadians were illegally receiving the cross-border signals. If the CRTC demanded the industry set up entirely Canadian services, they'd simply walk away and the grey market would flourish. It was finally decided the

services could launch in Canada if at least 10 per cent of their channels were produced in Canada, and those channels broadcast 10 per cent Canadian content.

Immediately, traditional radio-broadcasters showed about double standards, since they all have to offer at least 15 per cent CanCon. This kicked off a comic book-style winging exercise on Parliament Hill as the Liberal government about oversteering the CRTC decision, and slowly shook to the fact that the world had changed. In the end, the satellite companies bought peace by agreeing to nudge up the amount of French programming, and the issue blew over. But yet another of Ottawa's precious cultural barriers had fallen.

Thankfully, there aren't many left. There is almost nothing in the world of entertainment, news and information on that can't be found on the Net. News from the U.S., sources

from Europe, documentaries from South America, radio broadcasts of Korean soccer matches—yes, you name it, you can download it, usually for free. Canadians who want to watch ESPN, or HBO, or Showtime, or Nickelodeon, can go to discuss a grey market dealer in any major city to buy illicit access to U.S. satellite signals. They'll get a good message when they log on: services—almost beyond the reach of Canada's attempts to control cultural choice.

And yet, the CRTC clings to its tattered world of media protectionism, willfully blind to the reality that in a world where choice is unlimited, quality is the only protection for Canadians. Our sensors are proving they can choose without the help of bureaucrats. To take just one example, the Arcade Fire from Montreal became one of this year's biggest North American bands with virtually no support from the country's system of CanCon quotas. And several independent musicians spoke in favour of the satellite radio companies this year, pointing out that U.S. services already play more Canadian, as well as foreign, genres, than government-regulated commercial radio in Canada.

For now, the bureaucrats can go on covering their backs on network broadcasts. But one of these days the CRTC will emerge from its bunker to discover that the cultural trade was all over, and technology won't.

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## HYBRIDS SUCK GAS

They're a hit among those who want to save money and the environment. But they don't do much of either.

**BY HANCO MACDONALD** There are bad days for the Big Three. Ford and GM are gasping for breath as sales of their bread-and-butter sport utility vehicles collapse in the face of high gasoline prices—nearly twice, SUV sales have dropped 50 per cent for the Big Three. That's part of what's dragged GM's October sales down a jaw-dropping 32 per cent over last year, sending its stock to its lowest level in 15 years and leading to the huge layoff announced last week. "We may not see another Katrina-induced spike in gas prices any time soon," says Dennis DeSilva, of DeSilva's Automotive Consultants, "but prices will continue to go up, not down, and consumers are behaving accordingly."

Corporate virtue has become the new black, opposing the balance from gas-hungry trucks in favor of hybrid technology. Consumers are looking to fuel-efficient cars to reduce costs, to the detriment of their pocketbooks. Toyota topped ahead in October, nabbing the biggest share of the market over far less hybrid vehicles, which include the world's top-selling Prius. Ironically, production of that car cannot keep pace with demand: they're sold before they even make it to Canada, where the average new car sells for more than \$20,000. Any hybrid vehicle is likely to increase as Toyota and GM's California become more of \$1,000 and \$2,000 less a week, respectively, and able to claim.

The only problem is the hype is driving the market. Experts warn that hybrids' fuel efficiency is overstated by more than 25 percent. The vehicles won't actually save consumers much money, and they won't save the planet either. Peter Hirschman, from Cincinnati, Ohio, knows this first hand. The 41-year-old married couple was on its way to meet a friend's Civic Hybrid that his wife Paula liked and their trip to the dealership. He added variety plates that read "Bla Bla" and created a blog at

most evangelical in its intent. But he's since changed his tune. And his wife wants new plates. Her suggestion? "No titles." "Over time I realized the hybrid wasn't living up to its promised savings," Hirschman says.

He's not alone: according to industry watchdog Consumer Reports, hybrid cars actually achieve less than 40 per cent of their government ratings in city conditions. While all cars suffered full short of their published scores, Consumer Reports found the biggest discrepancy among the hybrids, whose rated fuel economy is fuel efficiency. Their test showed that Hirschman's Civic Hybrid was

**'The electric motor only kicks in below 50 km/h, and people rarely drive those speeds, even on city streets'**

used to 100 km/h, whereas in the city, according to low estimates, it averaged 50 km/h.

Blackburn blames "bad labelling requirements and methodologies," not Hirschman. By his car's lower-than-advertised fuel efficiency, he believes, is not Hirschman's fault. He says the car's lower-than-advertised fuel efficiency is not Hirschman's fault. He says the car's lower-than-advertised fuel efficiency is not Hirschman's fault. He says the car's lower-than-advertised fuel efficiency is not Hirschman's fault.

"the hybrid got the mileage promised."

But we don't drive that way. The problem, really, is in the way hybrids work. They can burn two power sources—gasoline and electric—under one hood. Most can't operate solely on electricity. The cost incentive is not to reduce the car's overall consumption of gasoline—and it does, but not by much, because the battery-powered electric engine works only at low speeds. "The hybrid's electric engine only kicks in under 50 km/h, so when you drive slowly, you're not using gas, but people rarely drive those speeds, even in city streets," says Blackburn. Competition has increased, as drivers tend to jockey through the city, braking more and accelerating faster, which Hirschman's test doesn't consider. (Hybrids use a combination of gas and electric power when accelerating at low speeds.)

Stephen Alchurn, BlackGold's senior manager, admits the test is "an ideal," not "real world conditions." He's optimistic that discrepancies will be corrected if government bodies implement proposed changes that would control lead winds, reduce driving, properly inflated tires, and gas-injection accessories, like air conditioning. In the meantime, however, most results have left a trail of confused consumers. Hirschman among them. He's still bullish about the technology, but argues "people need to know that real mileage is significantly lower than what's advertised."

The bottom line for consumers is to beware the hype. Hybrids cost an additional \$10,000 to \$15,000 over the gas-only counterparts, and their fuel efficiency isn't as promised, meaning for higher operational costs and environmental impact than advertised. And it takes a lot longer—five to 10 years—to recover the premium paid. ■

### ANTHONY PIAZZA KILLS WEEDS, SAVES CHILDREN

Anthony Piazza, a technician with TruGreen Lawn Care in Fort Worth, Texas, was working on a customer's lawn when a 10-year-old woman burst from her house clatching her screaming infant, screaming that the baby had drowned in the bathtub. Police said Piazza, 52, slipped the child on the back until it coughed up water and began to breathe, saving the baby's life, and presumably saving new parents to the use of pesticides.

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## Gone bananas?

A pathogen attacking banana plants in Asia may spread to Latin America—and destroy a year-round staple

**BY DANIELA KARNASKEWA** It is difficult to imagine life without the banana. Ubiquitous, it's available year-round, a staple in breads, muffins and smoothies. But yes, soon we may have no banana. Currently, the Cavendish variety constitutes the vast majority of the global banana export market, worth more than US\$6 billion a year. But Cavendish—which come in a wide range of sizes—are so genetically similar that a single pathogen could wipe out the whole bunch. It has already begun, in parts of the banana-growing world where a deadly soil-borne fungus called Panama tropical race 4, or simply TR4, is decimating plantations, says Randy Flores, a plant pathologist at the University of Florida in Homestead. Scientists say the challenge, exacerbated by climate uncertainty, is to keep TR4 from spreading into key growing regions such as Latin America. "Over 80 per cent of the bananas that are produced in a given year in the entire world are susceptible to TR4," Flores says. "If it spreads, it's not going to be a pretty picture."

The International Banana Association, representing exporters such as Chiquita, Del Monte and Dole, says consumers need not

worry because TR4 is confined to Southeast Asia, Australia and Indonesia. "It is far from certain that the disease will spread to Latin America," the IBA said last month in a statement. Someone would have to transport infected plants or infected soil to spread TR4, the IBA added, "and government measures and growing practices exist today to minimize such risks." That discounts pest challenges, the trade group acknowledges. "But suggestions that it is only a matter of time when these threats defeat the Cavendish banana touch the fact and disregard potential success of ongoing research to combat these pests."

History holds some lessons. Introduced in the 1870s, the Gros Michel variety once dominated the North American banana market. It was near perfect: flavorless, it grew in large

bunches and resisted decay when harvested and shipped. But in the 1950s, another fungus related to TR4—Panama race 1—started to infect banana plant roots and plug up the Gros Michel's internal transport vascular system. Plants wilted and died. It eventually got so bad that, by the early 1960s, the industry had to abandon the Gros Michel for the more-tolerant Cavendish, even though the bananas were inferior in taste and had their fiber skins that peeled more easily.

Still, the softskin Cavendish is as much as a taste, which means TR4 resistance can't be easily bred into the banana. Genetic modification may be an option, but who is to say whether consumers will embrace a GM banana? Based in Montpellier, France, Anne Wabnitz, a spokeswoman for the International Network for the Improvement of Banana and Plantain (INIBAP), says more needs to be done to protect the small-scale producers the group represents. "I think it would be to say that the number of banana breeders can be concentrated on the fingers of two hands," Wabnitz says.

The TR4 problem extends well beyond the implications for consumers in the First World. More than twice as many Cavendish bananas are grown for local consumption in are imported. "Locally consumed fruit are major staples in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America," says Flores, "and in countries such as Rwanda and Uganda, per capita consumption approaches one kilogram a day."

INIBAP is doing what it can to ready itself for TR4. The group wants to hold a workshop in Latin America to develop a strategy to prevent TR4 from entering the region, but so far has been unable to raise the money needed, says Luis Poncevar, an INIBAP vice president based in Barrabá, Costa Rica. While some large-scale banana traders are working on travel less desiccative packages, Poncevar says it seems that, when it comes to TR4, "for the moment, nobody is taking comprehensive Chiquita, Dole, Del Monte and Filipino produce distributors. Fifties are working on this issue."

TR4 was recognized only in the early 1990s, and remains mysterious to fungicides. And Flores takes little comfort in a deadly real scenario that the fungal disease is unlikely to cross the Pacific. "It's going to be difficult," he admits. "Someone's going to have to bring in plant material in their luggage, or sneak through quarantine—but this has happened before." All it takes is one slip-up. ■



### SHOCK AND AWE IN THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE

Although scientists have developed portable airport bomb-sniffing equipment that detects explosives in regard to a person's body, there remained the multi-ton problem of detecting the bomber before he or she could touch the detonator. Now, researchers propose optical electrodes in the soffit panels that would be silent until the inspector, who can thus stay in the aisle, is alerted by a small amount of electricity.







FROM 8 ON TO 2:30 A small reason may be over the legal limit with just one drink.

## Science? Or MADD as a hatter?

A new drunk-driving campaign draws fire

BY NANCY MACDONALD Mothers Against Drunk Driving has unleashed a new public awareness campaign aimed at Justice Minister Irwin Cotler. "Enough is Enough" advocates dropping the Criminal Code's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit from 80 to 60 per cent, to "protect innocent drivers on our roads." It's a move, they claim, that could push a small number over the legal barrier with a single drink. MADD/Canada CEO Andrew Morris thinks that lowering the BAC limit "could result in a 10 to 15 per cent reduction in crash fatalities. But questions have been raised about the science behind that campaign.

MADD selectively cites a study published in 2002 by Robert Mann of the Toronto-based Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Mann, in turn, had examined three numbers from two separate studies: neither study was called from Sweden and Australia. The conclusion in Mann's study seems to ignore the Swedish authors' extensive caveats and cautions, as well as the limitations inherent to the Australian study. For starters, the Aussie study examined the effectiveness of random breath testing (spot checks), not lowered BAC levels, on fatal traffic collisions. Also, that research was initiated in 1976, at a time when legal drunkenness was far more common. When's more, the Australian statistics contained wide variations: whereas the state of Queensland saw the 10 per cent cut drive its fatal accident

rate by MADD's Morris, in neighbouring New South Wales, fatal accidents decreased just eight per cent. "In the final analysis," says Herb Skirgown, whose Traffic Research Injury Foundation has twice examined the question of a lower BAC limit in Canada, "the existing literature only provides an inconclusive perspective."

The Ontario Community Council on Impaired Driving reports that the majority of drivers involved in alcohol-related fatalities are repeat offenders with BACs over 0.15 per cent—meaning that the problem is not drivers who repeatedly get behind the wheel with BAC levels once the legal limit, but repeat drinkers who consume a glass of wine, or two. This makes MADD's campaign seem wasteful, or at least asynchronous, given the downward trend in alcohol-related traffic fatalities. The Canadian Safety Council, the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators and the Traffic Injury Research Foundation take issue with MADD's campaign. Given the Ontario Community Council on Impaired Driving has determined that lowering the Criminal Code BAC level is "not a priority," noting that lowering the BAC would mean more work for police and the courts. But to MADD's Morris, the equation is simple: "If you lower BAC limits, regardless to what level, you'll save Canadian lives." Unfortunately, the math doesn't quite add up. ■

## NOTWITHSTANDING THE DRINKS

A noble document has become a favoured way to dodge traffic tickets

BY NICHOLAS MÖRNER In the end, even Margaret Trudeau Kuper's law lawyer agreed there was "something in there" about a judge dropping her drunk-driving charge due to the very Charter of Rights and Freedoms letter she co-authored. Pierre Trudeau, co-author in the Constitution. The assistant officer, the judge ruled in part, denied Kuper's right to her lawyer of choice. (When police called, they got only an answering machine and didn't leave a message.) Sorry, not, though, the fact is that with lawyers and paralegals in the growth industry of getting bad drivers off on each principle, a grand document aimed at protecting our rights has become a favoured way to ditch a traffic ticket.

Sometimes, it's cowboy cape detaining drivers or failing to ensure that they're charged. Other times, it's just the slow, lumbering advance of a badly legislated court system that spins up a charter challenge. Take Elmer MacKay—himself a former justice general of Canada, in charge of the nation's justice system. This month, MacKay, who got a speeding ticket after clocking an alleged 140 km/h in his pickup, threatened to mount a charter challenge because, after 15 months, the court was taking too long, violating Section 11 (b).

Or take the spring of 2004, when Manitoba's Court of Appeal handed down a 2:1 split decision in a case where the accused was found guilty of driving drunk. Responding to a tip from another driver, police seized the man, who smelled of alcohol and was holding his car keys, who then he'd just been driving. "Yes," he said, though he'd not found his rights to counsel. Later, a judge dismissed the case, ruling RCMP deeply detained and questioned the man. "If they do a sloppy job, that's what normally happens," said Don Ziskind, a Toronto paralegal who just got charged with impaired driving in south-western. For traffic cops, the charter has become a "minefield," said David McEwen, another Toronto paralegal, who senses the success of charter challenges on the number of rookies making arrests. ■



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### UNHAPPY WITH A MIDS-ORDER RISE

Jeffrey Bedford of Haysville, Okla., was all guns for participating in ABC's *Bevinsville's Little Swamp reality show*—until the producers switched his real wife with a gun man. Now Bedford is suing the network's parent, Walt Disney, for USD\$1 million, claiming that in addition to causing him emotional distress, his real wife had abandoned him and wasn't getting home.

## BECOME A RALPH'S SCHOLAR

**BY PAUL BURNER** Before the federal Conservative party was finally pushed together in 2003, Canada's beleaguered political right spent years looking for a maverick to unite it. Alberta's Paul Ralphe Klein, an oilman in every election he ever fought and widely admired by fiscal hawks, social doves and beer drinkers, was occasionally viewed as a potential leader. He toyed with the idea, according to his biographer Don Martin, but ruled it out forever at a 1998 news conference where he declared, "The strength of this country lies in the strength of the provinces."

Seven years later, in the twilight of a political career Klein says will end in 2005, it's beginning to look like his federal ambitions never went away. But instead of moving to Ottawa, he's figured out how to run the country without leaving Alberta. During a tour of eastern Canada last week, 69-year-old "Berg Ralph" launched a new national program. Starting next year, the Alberta Centennial Scholarships Program will subsidize the post-secondary education of 575 students across Canada, 25 from every province and territory, to the tune of \$2,000 each.

As national programs go, it's a modest one, costing just \$62,000 a year. But unlike Ottawa's mega-billion-dollar health, welfare and education transfer programs, Klein's has no catches. The provinces and territories decide who gets the scholarships, Alberta wins the top spots. Not surprisingly, the other rich national governments love it. Quebec's last government minister of Education Benoît Pelletier calls it "a good idea—innovative, audacious—the kind of initiative we need in this country."

Klein unveiled the program in a speech to the Canadian Club in Ottawa. Federal Tories had been dreading the address, fearing they would suffer goals-by-assassination in the January election if he advocated health care privatization and warned Ottawa to "keep your hands off" Alberta's massive energy wealth, as he has not repeatedly.

Klein did talk about health care, but carefully. He mentioned the blessing of private services by the Supreme Court of Canada and the burgeoning private health sector in Quebec and British Columbia without ever actually using the word "private." Equally discreet was his response to calls for Alberta to share more of its oil billions. The core of his message was, what's good for Alberta is good



FROM KLEIN OR WORKING: The Alberta Centennial Scholarships start next year

for Canada. The oil patch is revenue across the country, pouring tax revenue into the federal treasury, and financing medical and technological research that will improve the lives of all Canadians.

Then he rolled out the scholarships, Alberta's centennial "gift" to Canada. It's a stretch to call it a national program, admission Klein's Minister of Advanced Education Dave Hancock. But Hancock conceded it was

**Klein's gift comes with no strings. Quebec calls it 'innovative, audacious.'**

explicitly designed with no strings because "that's how we think federal programs ought to be set up."

The scholarships complement the education and training priorities set by all Canada as provision at their Council of the Federation meeting in Banff last summer. They also follow suggestion by influential Queen's University economist Tim Courchesne, who has urged Alberta to start voluntarily funneling some of its budget surpluses into other provinces through the council. Courchesne from Canada could become easily frustrated if too much talent and capital flow into booming Alberta.

Courchesne's proposal was recently considered in Alberta after it was published in a paper for the Institute for Research on Public Policy in August. But it found a steeper shore in Red Deer, the Calgary political consultant who has been joined in the bid to Klein through most of his career. Love is a freeholder in the province, but he went along on last week's eastern jaunt as a "volunteer." In Love, Alberta is the Rodney Dangerfield of Confederation. They pay a disproportionate share of the bills, but get no respect or credit because the money's kneaded through Ottawa's equalization program. The scholarship, he says, is "tangible, visible proof" of Alberta sharing its wealth.

In a recent interview, Klein's heir apparent, Jim Downing, proposed direct Alberta funding of provincial education over provinces. The former provincial treasurer said each government would strengthen other regional economies and produce a surplus of skilled workers for Alberta's labour-cramped patch. Love, who's also a "volunteer" for Downing's unofficial leadership campaign, likes the such schools notion. "It's neither possibility is direct Alberta investment in other provinces' energy research and development, an idea championed by the Calgary-based Canada West Foundation. Anything, concludes Love, is "better than sending [Alberta's money] to Ottawa—and watching it disappear." ■

BLACK-AND-RED JUNGLE

### KIDDIR JITTERS: SCHOOL BREAKFASTS IN BRAZIL

The coffee industry in Brazil is planning to sponsor breakfast for up to one million children between the ages of six and 18. It would consist of bread, milk and coffee. It is not uncommon in Brazil's coffee-producing regions for children to drink coffee, and the industry hopes to normalize the habit. "Kids have such drinks at school," says the project's scientific adviser, Darcy Lima. "Why not coffee instead to make them alert and attentive?"

## Erin Davis & Mike Cooper in the morning.

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# 'AFTER HARPER WAS ELECTED LEADER THE MESSAS GOT WATERED DOWN. WE'D LIKE TO SEE HIM REFLECT WHAT HE BELIEVES.'—TASHA KHEIRIDDIN—AUTHOR OF RESCUING CANADA'S RIGHT

## 1. HE ALWAYS PRAYS FOR SNOW

**NEIL ELIA** has been in Anglo-can media for nine years—about as long as he's been in Canada. So when the network, who moved to Tish, B.C., from Birmingham, England, hit rates this ago, was picking a 1996 for his Ph.D. thesis he combined his passions. "I've been trying to find out if people really get a spiritual fix from the sport," says Elia, 42, whose research includes interviews with about 50 snowboarders. "Turns out, they do. But on the hill and on reflection. There are almost moments of bliss as the fall when all the tensions of life disappear."

## 2. WON'T GO VERY WELL WITH A SUIT

The grey moon-belt like Nike that Merry McFly (Michael) wore in *Back to the Future II* were never more than a movie prop. But **ACE GARCIA**, a hard-

core "masher-head" from Montreal, wants to change that. In a little more than a week, Garcia collected more than 1,500 signatures on his online petition ([www.getnosuit.com](http://www.getnosuit.com)) to have a petition filed, which calls on Nike to manufacture the futuristic shoes "It's the only kind of movie sneakers," says Garcia, who is wearing a book about music and culture. "The re-ay, someone that Nike will put the shoes out in 2015—the year Marty wears them for movie—but can't wait 10 years to slip on his shoes."

## 3. TOP MODEL IS GOING TO GET UGLY

After four years away from modeling, **TASHA KHEIRIDDIN** is back—helping search for her new "It" girl as the host of Canada's *New Top Model* (a side-off of the U.S. show starring Tyra Banks). The reality series isn't airing until May, but the cross-country search for the girl who will compete and

live together in a Big Brother-type house started last week. Heller found himself in similar situation soon after winning Ford's Supermodel of the World contest in 1995. "When I moved to Paris, I lived with other models," says Heller, who plays Number 6 on *Survivor*. "I learned pretty quick I needed to go to the gym every day. I don't expect some hot girl pulling down the supermodel hope?" "There will certainly be some catcalls," says Heller, "but that makes for good TV."

## 4. GOLFER OVERCOMES HANDICAP

**BRIAN MACLEOD** says one of the best parts of his golf game is putting. "I can two-putt most greens," boasts the 39-year-old, same. "And I can crack some drives about 270 yards." Great by anyone's standards. And truly is a little, considering this MacLeod is totally blind. MacLeod, who lost his sight

after his retina was detached in two separate accidents before turning 30, regularly shoots in the 90s (his personal best is 86). He's even all the way around for blind golfers that he's entered dozens—including the U.S. Open and the Canadian Championships for the third year in a row. Next stop: the World Championships in Tokyo in April. The 46-year-old plays about six rounds a week with someone who assists him with the line, the judge, the put placement and the location of hazards. "The only thing we can do that sighted golfers can't is not the club on the sand in the bunker," says MacLeod. "A lot comes down to feel."

## 5.&6. DO THEY HAVE THE RIGHT FIX?

Just in time for the election campaign, **ADAM RUFFELL** and **TASHA KHEIRIDDIN** have released a political call to action. In *Rescuing Canada's Right*, they

argue in favour of a more entrenched conservative culture in Canada and a more honest of party policy—especially on issues related to family, environment and education. "Stephen Harper has not led us a positive, optimistic vision for the future," says Duffell, 26, who is a steady rightist. "Conservatives win when they talk hope. Reagan, Thatcher and Mike Harris are three good examples of that."

So do the authors—neither of whom are members of the party—think their "revolution" needs a new leader? "When Harper was head of the National Citizens Coalition, he articulated values that we believe—be it health care, things like private government and private health care," says Kheiriddin, 35, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation's Ottawa director. "And yet, after Harper was elected leader, the messages got watered down. We'd like to see him reflect what he really believes."

## 7. LITTLE GUY STILL PACKS A BIG PUNCH

In his debut with the *Toronto Star* last month, **TIMOTHY FLEET** scored three goals, added five assists, and—in special time—scored in two bursts. The former Calgary Flame (he was suspended from the NHL after violating the league's substance-abuse rules) has played in 12 games with the *Star* last Hockey League-leading Canucks—racking up 21 points and 68 penalty minutes. The winger from Oshawa, Ont., is engaged, and he straddled his once-scarce personal life. And what's certain about the 27-year-old return to the ice is that it wasn't motivated by money—popularity under the new league's cap is only US\$200 a week.

## 8. WHAT ABOUT THE REVOLUTION?

The team selling up in the eyes of former Ukrainian prime minister **YULIY TYMOSENKO** and

it all. In front of tens of thousands—gathered in Kiev's central square last week to celebrate the first anniversary of the Orange Revolution—Tymsenko called on President **Viktor Yushchenko** to reinstate the dropped ban in September for quarrelling publicly with his allies. Many think a rejoining of forces is the only way the government has a chance in the March election, but Tymsenko, who last January stood arm-in-arm with Yushchenko celebrating victory, lashed out, blaming many of the country's woes on him. The reconciliation many hoped for seems dead.

## 9. CALLED EVERY NAME IN THE BOOK

Indian Prime Minister **MANMOHAN SINGH**'s greatest legacy may end up being how he revolutionized his name. Language is the 2008 Nobel Prize in literature of Indian nationalists—14 new words were added that

take the PM's surname as their stem. *Jamunensis*, who comes from the words in Sanskrit for the sake of honey, refer to his brand of political thought as "monobaccus," his political language as "herbaceous," and his supporters as "herbaceous." Political opponents have while other lot of source for him.

## 10. THAT'S NOT VERY LADYLIKE

What was **CAROL THOMPSON** thinking? The fact that the daughter of the former British prime minister agreed to star on *The Celebrity Get Me Out of Here*, a reality series based on an Australian jungle, is one thing. But during the premiere, the 51-year-old gave the nine million viewers a theme song. She tried to go to the couch. Thompson simply wasn't in charge and then covered a near fall moon when clinking back washed. Hope the host Lady wasn't watching. **M**

**taste**  
Red wine, make  
me feel so fine  
... P. 75

www.elsevier.com/locate/jmb



INTENSITY: Richard's career included being the focus of a riot, some intense moments on ice (like this one in 1951), and the adulation of fans

## THE RIOT IS NOW CREDITED AS AN EARLY WARNING OF QUEBEC'S QUIET REVOLUTION

and "danza l'orich Canadian," Maurice Richard offers a credible, if dated, rendering of his career.

More the issue is whether the romantic hero is as interesting as the other available roles on the great and simple athlete. Missing from the film is the role of character to differentiate how Maurice Richard conducted himself, for both good and ill. There is the well-lost opportunity, for within the discipline and wildness, courtesy and restraint, goodness and violence of his personality can be found important homegrown truths about not only one Quebecer man but about men in general—and about the Quebec in particular—of this era.

**RICHARD** was born on Aug. 4, 1921, in the Montreal neighbourhood of *Le Centre*. The oldest of eight children (his brother Henri, the "Pocket Rocket," who played 18 seasons in the NHL, was 6 when Maurice left the house), he was sent to work at a CIP machine shop to help his family through the Depression. Though a star with the Vertins (juniors), a string of injuries, including two broken ankles and a fractured wrist, earned him the rap of being too brittle for the pros. Rejected for the same reason by the *Canadiens Army*, he continued as a merchant while honing his hockey skills. No Sidney Crosby or Wayne Gretzky, Richard was 32 before finally catching on with the *Canadiens*. Just one year later, during the 1944-45 season, he scored 50 goals in 50 games.

By then, Richard was married to his teenage sweetheart, Lucille Norbert, and was the father of two babies. A touching scene in *Maurice Richard* shows Lucille in a hospital bed after the birth of their first child. She is suffering but husband and hockey star, he is looking his daughter and weeping with joy. The Richards, both devout Catholics, raised seven children and were pained only by Lucille's death in 1994, after almost 52 years of marriage. Richard spent his family

and remained close to them, and to his church, all his life.

Like many of his generation, Richard was raised to value duty and honour, as well as to defer to various authorities without complaint or even much self-reflection. His own path went from being the prodigal, almost pathologically shy young man who, beginning with his remarkable 1944-45 outbreak of scoring,

The film, though, pushes these character complexities aside in order to uphold Richard as the timeless hockey hero. After a sweet on-screen courtship, his wife, played by Julie Le Breton, is reduced to minimal dialogue and remains a one-eyed concern over the trouble her warrior husband must undergo. His children are scarcely glimpsed, and his parents and siblings are all but absent. As for Richard's



POP CULTURE: The film, with Dupuis as the Rocket and Le Breton as his wife, captures some early myth

## THE QUEBEC MOVIE INDUSTRY IS GOOD AT CROWD PLEASING

defined the Canadian, to the outposts and increasingly globalized representative of all French Canada in the NHL a decade later. This era, which Breton charts fondly in the film, is riddled with a striking one.

But it remains the route taken by a man operating from a belief system inborn of his own experience and nature. Just as longhandedly, Richard's feelings about hockey culture, which included goals, fishing, trading and drinking for a hour routine to produce, was consistent with his character. Men of his time were unaware that they could or even should remove themselves in mid-life. They were who they were, and thought little on the matter.

Catholicism, it is worth noting, comes to well-being, apparently, in the dark ages of those rusty patrons and the eternal reign of Premier Lesage Dupuis.

A superior recent Quebecois film, *CRAYZ*, does greater justice to the dynamics of mid-century Quebec. But it concerns the evolution of an ordinary citizen's marriage in the '60s, by which time the Catholic Church was already losing its authority in most lives.

Missing, too, from *Maurice Richard* are the Richard's successes and opposite. The hockey sequences are vivid, and in a few instances are reminiscent of goals never captured before—occurring, in they did, before



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THEMSELVES BEING Missing from the movie is the role of character in illuminating how Richard considered himself, for both good and ill

## DUPUIS UNDERSTANDS THE ROCKET'S INTENSITY AND THE FIRE THAT LIT HIS EYES DURING GAMES

clusion. But Richard bears nearly anonymous engravings wearing odd uniforms. (The movie had to alter team engravings for legal reasons.) Even his epic rivalry with his nemesis and folk hero, Hecy, is ignored.

But then, his own bias isn't only a little better. Richard didn't even get a Stanley Cup on his own. Still, his legendary teammates, including Hecy (Tim Blais), Hecy-Lach and

the Montreal Foramen March 17, 1955, were triggered by league commissioner Clarence Campbell's decision to suspend Richard for the remainder of the season and the playoffs. Last remembered as the reason for the severity of the punishment. Four years earlier, in Boston, Richard reacted to a woman slush down (it's his side of the story) by punching the offender, a defenseless normal Hal Layton.



ASSETS ON THE KEY: Holding the Stanley Cup in 1966, leaving with league legends in 1992

## THE VIOLENCE THAT GOT HIM SUSPENDED WAS SHOCKING

Jean-Eudes Hébert, though portrayed in the film by real-life NHL star, including Vincent Lecavalier as the young Hébert, remains mostly name and anecdotal.

Ray Dupuis's performance does what it can today that no other film can: it makes the story, who also assumed Richard in a 1999 TV miniseries, understands his character's nervous nature. He is surely perceptive about the Rocket's intensity, especially the fire that lit his eyes during games, and how that passion could spill over occasionally into violence.

The Richard Rose was one such instance. Well known is the fact that the riotous and violent

over the head and shoulders with his stick. When a teammate moved on rearming the star, Richard attacked him, too, leaving his face and giving him a black eye. He had previously assaulted other referees and teammates both on the ice and off.



### WE'RE STALKING...

**KATE HOLMES AND TOM CRUISE'S UNBORN BABY** Holmes emerges a shaker. Literally, from a California cinema last week, she's been holding a vibrator to her belly to comfort the baby. The vibrator's noise annoyed other patrons, and she was asked to leave. Meanwhile, Cruise walked on a concept machine so Holmes can track the baby's development with ultrasound. Such machines cost anywhere from US\$15,000 to \$200,000.

While Richard was emotionally exhausted at the time of the incident in Boston, his outburst of violence was still shocking. (Today, he would probably be tried for assault.) He admitted as much on radio after the riot, and his confusion, and plea for calm, is the only school scene from those tumultuous few days shown in *Marianne Richard*. A spectator the night of March 17 at the Forum (as would only reach to Campbell) was assaulted by ice fans. With the game suspended, Campbell's letter forbidding the match to the Detroit Red Wings shown in the film's early montage—not off the night's episodes.

According to the Sept. 10, 1915, issue of *Maclean's*, Richard's actions, and the reactions of the league, set off the "the most destructive and frenzied riot in the history of Canadian sport." But such a decision not to dramatize the riot—the film's most dramatic, suggested by its own opening—is surprising. It may be that the director wasn't interested in showing the riot: maybe. It may also be that the moral complexity of the event doesn't suit the movie's inspirational trajectory.

Do young Quebecers really require such a broad-spectrum lesson to help them distinguish the Rocket from Boone Boone, or even the Great Darkness from the Quiet Revolution? If so, *Marianne Richard* may well provide a splashy alter of history-lit to help those civic classes. But while myths may be inspired by heroes, history is forever being shaped by individuals through the force of their character. The story of how the character of Marianne Richard changed Quebec and Canada remains to be properly told. ■

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MONTE DAMIANI (left) the members of the Jesuit order, known for their conservative and traditional views on women

## Secrecy, power and mortifying the flesh

A Catholic writer offers an exhaustive look at the myth and reality of Opus Dei

BY BRIAN ROTHWELL *Silvia, The De Vries* (Dutton) Opus Dei devotees, is a deranged, masochistic albino monk who likes to pain himself by whipping himself bloody or tighten the flesh piercing barbed strap he wears around his thigh. Although the competition is stiff, he may be the most over-the-top travesty in author Dan Brown's parade of caricatures. Given the novel's runaway success—14 weeks on the best-selling list in the *New York Times*—not to mention the upcoming film version, *Silvia* is also a PR nightmare for the real Opus Dei, a conservative and secretive Roman Catholic group. Silvia didn't spring full-blown from Brown's imagination. The novelist tapped into an existing web of speculation surrounding Opus Dei—Latin for "the work of God"—that's as deep-rooted among Catholics as it is on the outside world. It's that profound split in opinion within the church that brought John Allen, Vatican correspondent for the U.S. weekly *National Catholic Register*, to write *Opus Dei* (Doubleday), an exhaustive look at the most controversial force in modern Catholicism.

Opus Dei is controversially elective study, based on 350 hours of instruction with 400 Catholic members, later members and some few non-Catholic converts. Allen could find "it had so little initial effect" (the author told *MailOnline*). "This is the dark side of Catholic debate: every sentence is going to be passed by such elite Vatican and even pontifical circles of some of these conversations." When Allen asked some of these members, he wouldn't answer his questions until he responded to one of them: did his wife belong to Opus Dei? "It had no laugh out loud, since St. Thomas, St. Francis and medieval about Catholicism in general and, second, very left political." Allen turned out, St. Thomas Allen had not an email to friends that mentioned, ongoing, that it'd been a going-away party for an Opus Dei

woman. From there grew the cyberpace row, says Allen. (For the record, author Allen, a 44-year-old practicing Catholic from Hays, Kan., is not any member of his family but ever been affiliated with Opus Dei.)

Controversy has dogged Opus Dei from its inception in 1928, the creation of Jesuit Maria, a young Spaniard who saw a way to bring holiness into the world by dedicating everyday work to God. Spain resulted in Opus Dei's birthplace, home to 15,000 of its 35,000 members, 900 of whom live in Canada. There are fewer than 3,000 Opus Dei priests, and it's only members—more than half of them

Members follow many age-old practices in worship: daily rosary, for example, and—for the fifth of adherents who are full-time, celibate members called numeraries—what's known as "corporal mortification."

These aspects of Opus Dei emerged in the English-speaking world after 1972, when Cardinal Basil Hume, bishop of London, said, "It was a match made in heaven," says Allen. "The new pope had come out of the Solidarity movement in Poland where the Church was struggling to find a Christian way of work in socialist Marxist theory. And he found it in Hume's thought." John Paul admired Opus Dei. "Papal patronage never wavered," Allen says. "He died in 1992, only 17 years after his death, and in 2003, he became St. John Paul the Great."

Each mark of papal favor made Opus Dei ever more of a lightning rod for criticism in liberal and secular circles. Allen thoroughly scrutinizes all the claims and counterclaims. Is the order rich, secretive and powerful? Scientificly airtight about its membership, yes, in Allen's judgment, the argument that the order is controlling its members' "spiritual journey" doesn't reach. Rich, hardly—Opus Dei directly controls about the U.S. of about \$344 million, less than the annual income of the St. Vincent de Paul charity. Its most visible sign of wealth, a \$266-million Manhattan skyscraper, came from a bequest of \$157 million in pharmaceutical stock in 1997. (Before that unnamed donor died, Opus Dei was trying

**A fifth of the group's members are celibate. They whip themselves and wear the cilice, a barbed thigh band.**

women—who are in charge. Lay power was an almost exclusive element within Catholic thought, which has always seen the clergy in control, and spiritual discipline among conservative Spanish churches. But Opus Dei is otherwise very traditional in its doctrine and its ascetical style, both of which have inspired a visceral hostility in liberal Catholics.

Opus Dei emphasizes absolute fidelity to the papacy, and to the secrecy of Church's teaching on faith and morals, including its attitudes against contraception and abortion.



### FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT...GROUPTHINK

Science writer David Brooks explores the "tribal mind" in *The Social Animal* (Dutton). The book is a book about groupthink. Brooks has his good side—it looks as if from the confines of the self and tells us how to believe in it. Brooks—well, it's primarily left and right-wing. Brooks, the book is about the positive, Brooks argues, is to combine a conscious awareness of our instinctive reactions whenever we encounter someone new

to make friends for a new way (what's new?) as for power, only three members hold high Vatican offices.

Allen brings off the hard details of the rule (the barbed thigh band) and the "discipline," a small once weekly self-administered ritual (a crucifixion) in a brief paper. "When I go into about Opus Dei in Spain or Italy, I get lots of questions about power and money, but almost none about the faith. That's as ancient tradition of spiritual aliveness in Modernism Catholicism." But Allen argues that some modern young people don't have what they're getting into. "For most members, after following its program for a few years they find themselves happier than they could have imagined, but some—especially those prone to thinking 'if a little pain is good, then a lot of pain is better'—are feeling broken and betrayed."

Allen believes many of the excesses cited by members, especially spiritual director who push members too hard and too fast, are now things of the past. Some Opus Dei devotees, taking a very Catholic long view, believe these birth pains of a new spirituality will be forgotten as a few centuries from now. Perhaps, Allen concludes, or it may be Opus Dei itself that will have been forgotten. ■

## McGraw-Hill BESTSELLERS

Fiction		Nonfiction	
	LAST WEEK		LAST WEEK
1. THE TIME IN BETWEEN by David Levithan	400	1. TALK TO THE HAND by Lynne Truss	410
2. THE FELLOWSHIP by Margaret Atwood	1,000	2. FELLOWSHIP by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner	1,000
3. THE LIGHTHOUSE by J.D. Salinger	2,100	3. THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING by Joan Didion	1,000
4. THE SEA by John Banville	1,000	4. MAD: THE UNKNOWN STORY by Jung Chang and Jon Halliday	1,000
5. A BREATH OF SNOW AND ASHES by Hilary Mantel	4,000	5. THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF THINGS by Peter D. Hemenway	1,000
6. THE DA VINCI CODE by Dan Brown	9,000	6. THE DEEP END BOOK OF BIRDS by Emma Gibbons	1,000
7. MEMOIRS OF MY UNLUXURIOUS YOUTH by Gabriel Garcia Marquez	4,000	7. STRUCK BY LIGHTNING by Jeffrey Eugenides	1,000
8. SWEETNESS IN THE BELLY by Candice Carroll	1,000	8. WITH EVERY WHERE by Elyse Kessler	1,000
9. BIRD OF CRENSHAW by Robert Jordan	7,000	9. HOW THE COLD WAR BEGAN by Amy Knight	1,000
10. A PERFECT HEART TO GO TO CHINA by David Copperfield	1,000	10. THE THREE SISTERS IN POWER by Richard J. Evans	1,000

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David Copperfield by Charles Dickens	Anne Carson by Anne Carson	The Sea by John Banville	The Fellowship by Margaret Atwood	The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion	The Secret Language of Things by Peter D. Hemenway	The Three Sisters in Power by Richard J. Evans

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EACH EPISODE of *My Name Is Earl* ends with a scene in which Earl helps the person he set out to help.

## Why they might just make it after all

The new sitcoms are dark like *Seinfeld* but they've hung on to something that show rejected

**BY JIMME J. WEINMAN** This is a period of adjustment for television critics. Just a year ago, most articles about sitcoms asked: Is the sitcom dead? But this season, the big TV ritual story is about a new crop of sitcoms that have come along, all at once, to find critical praise and promising ratings. With shows like *My Name Is Earl*, *Everybody Loves Ray*, *How I Met Your Mother*, and the *Arrested* adaptation of Kravitz's *The Office*, as well as the soon-to-be canceled but recently introduced *Arrested Development*, the story has abruptly changed from the death of the sitcom to its rebirth. It's tough for critics to keep up.

But as the sitcom is making a comeback, what has it come back as? Today's sitcoms don't bear a lot of resemblance to the last that went off the air just a couple of years ago, you won't see the deliberately paced, broadly theatrical style of *Everybody Loves Raymond*. These new sitcoms are faster, more sophisticated, darker—and, oddly enough, also more sentimental and sweeter. Most of these shows embrace a new mission to clarify confusing story points and set up by now. They borrow the storytelling grammar of reality shows and independent films, jumping around in time and incorporating quasi-documentary techniques. Even *How I Met Your Mother*, the most traditional of the new shows, uses voice-over narration, flashbacks and other time jumps.

These techniques would have been in vogue a few years ago, when sitcoms were usually written and shot like miniature stage plays. But these new sitcoms don't just use these devices as gimmicks; they use them as a source of jokes (that wouldn't be possible. At one point in the pilot of *My Name Is Earl*, we see the main character's brother run out of a house, followed by a flashback to a few minutes earlier, showing what caused him to be chased out. Showing the flashback before the setup, it's a way

of turning an old gag (a character does something stupid and has to run away) into something smarter now.

Some of these experiments can be traced back to *Seinfeld*, which established itself as the '90s sitcom for people who thought sitcoms were stupid. Also like *Seinfeld*, the new sitcoms often have darker storylines than traditional shows. The lead character of *My Name Is Earl* is a crude and selfish, albeit one who is trying to turn his life around by helping people less fortunate. *Everybody Loves Ray* Chris deals with subjects, like poverty and racism, that traditional sitcoms tackled only

### The most beloved sitcoms convey the sense the characters are trying to grow

in very special episodes. But most of the new sitcoms break with the *Seinfeld* formula by including something *Seinfeld* rejected: the heartwarming moment.

The creators of today's sitcoms are always looking for ways to make their characters and light amidst the dark jokes and funny flashbacks. The first episode of *My Name Is Earl* ended with a happy sentimental speech in which a character thanked Earl for boosting his self-esteem. Even *Arrested Development*, with its tones of misanthropy and drug gang, always has a scene where two characters

share a lesson and make an emotional connection—the creator, Michael Littwin, calls the “bag at the end.” On any episode, the lead character tells his son “there's nobody I love more than you in this whole world,” and that would never have survived the edit at Fox. It's about *Seinfeld*. (The new sitcoms want to be big and experimental, but they don't want to make us love the characters and root for them to make those connections.)

These tender moments sometimes seem coached, but they're part of an attempt to create something most successful sitcoms have: characters who are on a quest to improve their lives. The rap against bad sitcoms, like *Arrested* (but, semi-gay with very blond wife) or *Still Standing* (but, semi-gay with very brunette wife), is that the characters never change. The most beloved sitcoms usually convey the sense that the characters are trying to grow, whether it's Mary Richards trying to make it after all, or Archie Bunker attempting to deal with social changes he doesn't understand. The characters in good sitcoms may not change much—if they did, the show would be over—but if they did, the progression of striving toward self-improvement, just as we strive in our own not-so-fanciful lives.

Will the public come to recognize itself in Earl's quest for better karma, or Chris's attempt to make it through childhood? It's possible. And if not, then at least TV critics will be able to dust off their “death of the sitcom” addictions. ■



#### U.S. THANKSGIVING... ACCORDING TO TV

Last week's American holiday informed much of US programming. The *Late Show's* David Letterman said his mother cooked with the specific qualities of the leg meat by marinating her turkey in Red Bull. And a turkey expert showed us: Today shows host Matt Lauer some of the 100,000 cranberries the Whitehall turkey festival receives. Meanwhile, a CSI plot centered on a case found in a dumpster behind a restaurant on Thanksgiving Day—about and covered in food.



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MAGAZINES ARE FULL of photos of pregnant stars posing down the runway in frilly little maternity outfits.

## Thanks a big fat lot, Kate Hudson

Pregnant women used to happily waddle around in mousmou. Now they're supposed to look sexy.

**BY KATE PILLOW** It's one of those Toronto moves where your cost considerably more than \$200 and a dietary diet can be twice as much. "Our customer tend to be fashionistas in their 30s," says spokeswoman Tracy Robert, who is not exactly unattractive herself. "On the weekend, the touch outside the dressing rooms is filled with husbands gazing after the input. 'Do you like this?' 'No.' 'Does my hair look like?' 'No.' They've learned. They're afraid."

The thing is, their wives have put on a few pounds, which used to be an uncomfortable aspect of pregnancy. But gone are the days when pregnancy was nine months of spine from the beauty myth, and a woman could waddle around as a third mousmou, fiddling complaints about how glow. "There's no glow," says Adrienne Down Gordon, a tall, blond VP at an ad agency who is four months pregnant with her second child and came to Kirk looking for a designer black tie affair. "You don't glow and grow, your hair looks lustrous, you feel like crap, and you're gaining weight."

And yes, magazines are full of photos of Gwyneth Paltrow and Kate Holmes posing down the red carpet in frilly little maternity outfits—wads of the luxury, they look as thin and shining as ever. "Whoa, baby, you look pregnant to look sexy," says Down Gordon, opening a rack of tiny teenies and teeny-tiny wraps. "Chasing fitness and plunging necklines have become de rigueur in maternity wear, which can make finding the perfect little black dress for a holiday party—a daunting task at the best of times—something of a nightmare. On top of it, retailers say down the line that 'We're not a lot of size at this time,' says Robert, swinging a 1421 black tulle that has slipped to the side of its hanger. "Women will have the most amazing bodies and say, 'Look how thick I am! My breasts have gotten so big!' But they don't want to wear coloured tulle for eight months, like their mothers did. They want to wear the same kinds of clothes they did before they got pregnant."

Which is to say, five-to-five. "I can't wear

**'I'd like to get a pair of jeans, too, but I should probably save the money for my child's RESP'**

any of the empire-waisted stuff from my first pregnancy. It looks degrading now. Everything is tighter and the trend is to accentuate the bump rather than conceal it," says Down Gordon, who wound up purchasing a floor-length dress with spaghetti straps and tulle layers of tulle, black tulle. "I'd like to get a pair of jeans, too." Kirkup (who is sewing adjustable pants into low-rise designer jeans—"but I should probably save the money for my child's RESP")

It's not uncommon for a woman to spend

thousands at Kirk or Kelly, Canada's other main source of high-end prenatal style, which is also in Toronto. Although each has a different aesthetic—Kirk is more casual chic, with baggy jeans of shapewear, and a little bit of tulle with photos of customers' babies, while Kelly has straight-up sexy evening gowns, tailored suits and a built-in board full of press clippings—their price points are both astronomical.

"It's hard to justify that kind of investment for clothes you're just going to wear while you're pregnant, but there are very few basic pieces at good prices in Canada," says Melissa Abraham, an ad executive at London Marketing who is due to give birth in mid-December. "My big splurge was a pair of jeans with an under-belly panel. At this point, I just wish I could get a pair of suspenders to keep them up, but I spent as much as them I'm going to wear them right to the end."

Some women are so devoted to looking fabulous, they shop online to the end. "One lady was looking for something to wear to a wedding where she was having conversations," says Nicole Klein, Kirk's store manager. "Her device told her, 'Pack your bag,' and she said, 'No, I just bought myself a really great shirt and pants!' She went to the wedding, she delivered, and two hours later, gave birth."

Even post-delivery, many women shop at maternity stores. "Then you're in the depressing maternity period, when you're not back to your normal weight," says Carolyn Berger, 38, a legal recruiter who gave birth to her third child a year ago. "Yes, you're thrilled to have this beautiful baby, but there's an aftertaste, and it's not going to." The preferred look, too, is a little less revealing. "Afterward, the last thing you want is someone looking at your belly. Let's face it, there's no pretending it's very when there's not a baby in there any more."



### WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT... COMMUNIST HOTEL

Moscow's Belarus Ukraina Hotel, a "Stalinist Bath" skyscraper whose towers, suites and hammer-and-sickle emblem were heavily featured in the 1990 Sean Connery film *The Russian Novel*, was recently sold at auction for US\$224 million to a private business group. The Ukraina, a towering 36-story skyscraper, is one of seven buildings owned up by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin in the '50s in response to the sleek, modern skyscrapers of New York.



# In praise of the Jiggle Ad



SCOTT PETERSON

your morbid curiosity. The invention of television by man, combined with the earlier invention of bosom jigglingly gravity, presents viewers with the irresistible opportunity to boost the popularity of their brands while tacitly acknowledge that 97 per cent of consumers couldn't tell a typical American beer from a child's paw of John Madden's neck sweat.

The result has been infinite variations on the same message: that by drinking a certain kind of beer, a heterosexual male can grossly enhance his chances of being appreciated and seduced by an attractive, sexually liberated woman and her besties. This scenario is ruthless and mechanistic and, if it correctly recollates the words of the voluptuous blond woman at the bar, "never going to happen" no more.

But lately, brewers seem to have grown bored, temporarily at least, with the cleavage quo. Either that or all the world's theory ladies have gone over to Colin Farrell's and are not emerging anytime soon. The point is that advertising has recently shifted more to the Subversive, Qualitative Reasons as to why a company's beer is a superior beverage. That task is made more difficult by the fact that there usually are none.

For a while there, the spotlight was squarely on the temperature at which beer's carbon dioxide is precisely known as pasteurized. Heat pasteurizing was apparently no longer

satisfactory. TV advertising gravely adhered to that the sage rafter of taste would send forth less than a cold pasteurized brew. Shortly thereafter, true refreshment could be found only among the few brandishly enough to have been "in" previously. There were few more a parody if you weren't drinking a beer brewed at 50 below zero. A scientific expedient that claimed the lives of seven stout men.

The focus has since changed. Regular TV viewers are by now familiar with the person of August Busch IV, the fifth generation brewmaster for Anheuser-Busch, the maker of Budweiser. Busch wants us to purchase his

**The invention of TV by man, and the earlier invention of bosom jigglingly by gravity, was irresistible to brewers**

company's new brand, Budweiser Select, because of its exceptional quality. It has "a full flavour," he says. (Hey, that's great. I don't know how many times I've danced down a beer-marketing in disgust.) "This beer has maybe five-night flavour—a lot of hops!" Also, Budweiser Select is "easy to drink," a fact that distinguishes it from most brands of beer. Finally, there's the fact that Busch's new brew is made from "the finest American and foreign hops." That revelation suggests a novel slogan: "Bud Select—apparently all our other beers are made from inferior, crappy hops."

By concentrating on alleged quality, Busch is clearly trying to sweep a trick from fellow beer fanatics. For Coors, who—tongue-in-cheek—advertise for his firm's flagship brand,

Coors Light—has for years now been wounding to the Colorado wilderness with only his love of Rocky Mountain fresh water and a weary, fumbled camera crew. "Hi, I'm Pete Coors," he says with an easy smile and gleaming, crazy eyes. And then he tells us how he's personally travelled to the middle of nowhere to hand-pick each snowflake that will melt into the water from which his beer is made.

The Coors company, while still always on the lookout for new gifts to stuff into under-the-hill beer pans, has been at the forefront of efforts to promote Subversive, Qualitative Reasons for choosing a beer. These reasons have been truly varied of hypocrisies for cool, crisp, clean. We've been told that Coors Light is better because it's shipped cold. And then there was the memorable attempt to persuade TV viewers that Coors Light offers superior refreshment because its goal is to be "the coldest-tasting beer in the world." Not the best-tasting beer. Not even the best-tasting beer. Just the coldest-tasting beer, so, in, "Mmm, this beer sure tastes like cold?"

With the Coors Light ad team having dropped anchor at what currently be described as the Past of Subversive, one can only imagine what former clichés of subversion may be unearthed and what future slogans deployed.

- Coors Light: The Beer That's Made From 100 percent Beef!
- Coors Light: Mouth, Esophagus, Stomach
- Coors Light: It Tastes Like Beer Because It Is Beer!

In Canada, meanwhile, the current ad for Molson Canadian depicts two men in parkas screaming at each other through a blizzard. Then a critic, they dig feverishly into the snow to save the life of... a case of Canadian. Then they bring the bottle inside where hot women and good music await. Not subversive, not qualitative, but strangely refreshing. ☞

-dickchuck@sympatico.ca

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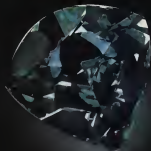
Inside the Actors Studio

Sundays 5et/2pt

Bravo!



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**MACLEAN'S**

**ROGERS**

COMMENDED

Flying devices, Charlie Brown's Christmas tree and a bunch of other random but very cool things

**IS THAT THE BAT PHONE?** Forget about the newest, most sleek cell phone and try the *Phoner 21Phone* (2002), an old-school handset (or not) that still that plugs into nearly any type of cellphone.

**GOO, WHAT A VIEW** There are loads of satellite image sites on the Internet, but none as artistic, and often as awestruck, as the heaven-sent views posted by Space Imaging at [www.spaceimaging.com/gallery/default.asp](http://www.spaceimaging.com/gallery/default.asp).



**BEATS HAVING A FLAT TIRE** If you have a CAA membership, head to one of five travel kiosks to pick up *Concepts Toronto* Play-on movie passes—just \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for kids.

**BOBO-DANCE** Rock out to one of Sony's very QBRD music vids in the music video for his new single, *Roll Ya*. Only on a Black video do highly choreographed breakdancing robots make perfect sense—and look so cool.



**WHEN YOU JUST CAN'T PLACE HIM** Every fringe actor that you can (or can't) think of when you're watching a movie is identified in *Hey! It's That Guy: The Cinecrazebook Guide to Character Actors*.



## BLAZING BELL

The Bell Orchestra, which includes two members of Arcade Fire, fines pop and classical on their debut, *Recording a Tape the Color of the Light*. While not as power-packed as Arcade Fire, Bell Orchestra's soaring musical arrangements (filled with strings and horns) has put them in line to be Montreal's next indie-rock darlings.

**IT WORKS AT CHRISTMAS** Hang the "Birthday Stock" up when your special day rolls around to ensure friends and family to sniff it with gifts.



#### NONNA'S SECRETS REVEALED

The *Silver Spoon*—considered a cooking bible by Italians since it was published in 1940—has finally been translated into English.



#### ALWAYS AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Download RCKW's *Morning Becomes Electric* podcast ([www.rckw.com/shows/11](http://www.rckw.com/shows/11)) for the next big thing. Host Nick Mazzoni was opening *Coldplay* and *Novak* Jones long before they broke onto the mainstream.

**PUT AWAY THE FRISBEE** The *Toobee* (2003.95) is like a pop can disc-in-a-hat, but there's no need to worry about cutting yourself on any sharp edges. And though it takes a little bit of time to get the hang of it, once you do, this toy somehow becomes highly addictive.



#### EVEN COSTANZA LOOKS THIN

The coolest thing about the new *Seinfeld* DVD (Seasons 5 & 6) is getting to see the whole gang as side figures in a new, believe-it-or-not, *Seinfeld* movie, which has been dubbed "Seinfeld-ness."

**FIGHT THE COLD** Canoga, a Toronto designer, is redefining sweaters into hooded scarves that not only keep you warm but also turn you into a stylish snail.



**RETRO '80s** The *Unlabeled Mebe* (JTV) and its star, London, the all-knowing and always-wondering German shepherd, is back—unleashed, at least—enterprising a whole new generation on Saturday mornings. It's a lot of fun for big kids, too.

**TOO HOT** Not even Usher, one of the "world's sexiest men," stands a chance when pitted against his *In the Mix* co-star, *Unleashed Mebe*. If you can't get enough of her on the new film, check out the Montreal-born actress next season in *Entourage*.

#### POOR CHRISTMAS TREE, POOR CHRISTMAS TREE

Urban Outfitters is selling replicas of the garbages in *Charlie Brown's Christmas*. The tree (54) comes with a realistic branch and, of course, a tiny and *Charlie Brown* ball ornament.





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